



ACHIEVING TOGETHER

FOUR STONES GATEWAY TRUST

MOBILE DEVICES & WEARABLE TECHNOLOGY POLICY

DATE POLICY WAS APPROVED	10.07.2026
DATE POLICY WILL BE REVIEWED	SPRING 2028
MEMBER OF STAFF WITH RESPONSIBILITY FOR REVIEW	EXECUTIVE HEADTEACHER

FOUR STONES GATEWAY TRUST

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Four Stones Gateway Trust is a company limited by guarantee registration number 9115941

Key Definitions

All policies incorporate the following schools or organisations within Four Stones Gateway Trust ('the Trust'):

- Clee Hill Community Academy
- Cleobury Mortimer Primary School
- Haybridge High School and Sixth Form
- Haybridge Teaching School Hub
- Haybridge SCITT
- King Charles I School
- Lacon Childe School
- SHaW (Shropshire, Herefordshire and Wolverhampton) Maths Hub
- Stottesdon CofE Primary School
- TDMS (The De Montfort School)
- Any other schools or organisations that may join the Trust from time to time and not listed above.

The terms Academy, School, Organisation and Trust are considered interchangeable in the context of all Trust policies.

Where appropriate, in this Policy the term:

“CEO” includes the Chief Executive Officer

“CFOO” includes the Chief Financial Officer

“Trust Senior Leadership Team” includes Executive Headteachers, Headteachers, strategic operational leads and Teaching School/SCITT Directors.

“Headteacher” includes the appropriate School Headteacher.

“Trustees or Trust Board” are appointed Trustees who oversee the business of Four Stones Gateway Trust, agreeing the overarching strategic direction and ensuring robust governance.

“Local Academy Boards (LAB)” are appointed Governors at a local level. LAB Governors act as advocates for their school's Safeguarding, SEND, Standards and Stakeholder engagement.

“Chair” responsible for leading the board and ensuring its effectiveness

“Stakeholders” are any individuals or companies who are invested in the welfare and success of the Trust and/or School and its students, including staff members, students, parents, community members, LAB or Trust members, trade unions, local business leaders etc.

1. Purpose

Four Stones Gateway Trust (Trust) is committed to providing a safe, calm and focused learning environment. This policy sets out expectations for student possession and use of mobile devices, wearables and emerging technologies on all Trust sites.

Whilst recognising that mobile devices can help keep students safe on their journey to and from school, the impact of their use in schools is significant. We know the distractions that even one device can cause to the learning of an individual student and their peers.

2. Definition of Mobile Devices

For the purposes of this Policy, *mobile devices* include:

- Mobile phones
- Tablets and handheld computers
- Wearable technology capable of recording (e.g. smart watches, Meta/Ray-Ban smart glasses, smart rings, earbuds with recording features)
- AI-enabled devices
- Portable gaming devices
- Any device capable of:
 - Accessing the internet
 - Capturing audio, video or images
 - Running apps or AI tools
 - Communicating electronically

3. Acceptable Use (EYFS – Year 6)

Primary-aged students should not need to bring mobile phones or other personal communication/mobile devices into school. We recognise, however, that in a small number of exceptional circumstances—such as for safeguarding reasons related to travel to and from school—parents/carers may feel a device is necessary.

In these cases, mobile phones must be handed in at the school office upon arrival and will be securely stored for the duration of the school day. Students may collect their devices from the office at the end of the day. Mobile phones must not be kept in students' bags, pockets, or classrooms during school hours.

4. Acceptable Use (Years 7–11)

All our schools are mobile phone free environments as mandated by the DfE. [Mobile phones in schools - GOV.UK](https://www.gov.uk/government/news/mobile-phones-in-schools) As we seek to maintain an environment focused on learning, free from distractions, we have implemented clear policies and procedures requiring students to hand in their mobile phones at the start of the school day. Smart watches and other mobile technology are also prohibited on our school sites.

Unless express permission is granted, students bringing their mobile device to school must adhere to the following:

- During the school day mobile phones must be handed in and will not be available for use during school hours in line with their school's school policy
- Refrain from wearing or bringing in smart watches and other wearable technology into school

School time is defined as the time between students arriving on site to the time that they leave (including after school activities, school trips and visits).

We take breaches of our Policy seriously. Breaches will result in confiscation and sanctions could be applied as outlined in the Trust's Behaviour Policy or the individual schools' behaviour protocols. As outlined in our Trust Behaviour Policy a handheld wand device may be used to check for mobile phones should concerns be shared that a student has one in their possession.

Reasonable adjustments may be made, at the discretion of the Headteacher, for example for a student who is diabetic and uses their mobile phone to monitor blood sugar levels during the school day, students who are visually impaired who use the scanning facility on their mobile phone to read documents to them. Parents/carers should contact the school to discuss where they think reasonable adjustments may be required to support their child.

We would not expect teachers to make reasonable adjustments in lessons unless they have been directed to do so by a member of the Senior Leadership Team or by a Head of Year.

5. Sixth Form (Years 12–13)

Students may use mobile devices in **designated Sixth Form areas only**. Devices must not be used:

- In classrooms
- In corridors
- In communal spaces used by in Years 6–11

6. Examinations

In line with JCQ regulations:

- No mobile device, smart watch, wearable camera or electronic device may be brought into an examination room.
- Possession of such a device constitutes malpractice, regardless of intent.

As outlined in our Trust Behaviour Policy a handheld wand device may be used to check for mobile phones should concerns be shared that a student has one in their possession.

7. Malicious use, Cyberbullying and AI Manipulation

Using mobile devices or smart technology to bully, intimidate and/or threaten other students is unacceptable and will not be tolerated. In some cases, it can constitute criminal behaviour.

Students must not use any device or platform to:

- Harass, menace, threaten or offend others
- Create or share harmful content, for example where content shared may cause embarrassment or discomfort to an individual
- Create or distribute deepfakes or altered images of others
- Use AI to manipulate images, audio or video

These behaviours may constitute a criminal offence under the Telecommunications Act (1984) or Malicious Communications Act (1988). The Trust may inform the police.

Mobile devices are not to be used in any situation that may cause embarrassment or discomfort to fellow students, staff or visitors to the school. It is a criminal offence to use a mobile phone to menace, harass or offend another person.

8. Social Media and Messaging Apps

Students must not access or use social media or messaging apps on school grounds. This includes (but is not limited to):

- WhatsApp
- Snapchat
- TikTok
- Instagram
- X/Twitter
- Discord
- Any anonymous messaging platform

9. Sharing Nudes or Semi-Nudes / Youth-Produced Sexual Imagery

Making, possessing or sharing indecent images of anyone under 18 - including yourself - is illegal.

This includes:

- Original photographs
- AI-generated or AI-manipulated content

- Deepfakes

All incidents will be handled as safeguarding cases in line with:

- KCSIE
- UKCIS “Sharing Nudes and Semi-Nudes”
- Trust Safeguarding & Child Protection Policy

10. Searching, Screening and Confiscation (DfE July 2022, Updated July 2023)

Searches will follow the DfE Searching, Screening and Confiscation (2022) guidance.

Authorised staff may:

- Require the student to unlock the device
- Examine any data and files on a device if there is good reason to do so
- In exceptional circumstances, delete material that poses a risk if there is good reason to do so.
- Share any material with additional agencies e.g. police where there are concerns regarding the material and its intended use, as soon as is reasonably practicable.
- Confiscate the device where reasonable to do so

11. Emergencies

Parental contact directly to students is difficult for the school to manage particularly in an emergency situation. Students needing to contact home must use the school main reception or student reception. Parents/carers should also contact the school reception for urgent messages to be shared with their child(ren).

12. Responsibility for Property

The Trust accepts **no liability** for the loss of, theft of or damage to mobile devices or valuables. We ask families to consider taking out their own personal insurance if they make the decision to send their child into school with a mobile phone.

13. Multimedia Devices and Games Consoles

No student may bring these items onto site.