



MOBILE PHONES AND ELECTRONIC DEVICES USE

EYFS: 2.1 & 3.4

This policy refers to all electronic devices able to take pictures, record videos, send or receive calls and messages. This includes cameras, mobile telephones, tablets and any recording devices including smartwatches.

More and more devices are technically, capable of connecting us to the outside world. Golden Apples is committed to safeguarding children and will therefore not allow all devices we deem capable of receiving calls and messages on the premises. All parents to be advised to leave such devices in their cars during pick up or drop off and for those parents on the show round we will ask them to leave those devices securely in the office.

Golden Apples promotes the safety and welfare of all children in our care. We believe our staff should be completely attentive during their hours of working to ensure all children in the nursery receive good quality care and education.

To ensure the safety and well-being of children we do not allow staff to use personal mobile phones, smartwatches and/or fit bits during working hours.

We use mobile phones supplied by the nursery to provide a means of contact in certain circumstances, such as outings.

This policy should be used in conjunction with our online safety policy to ensure children are kept safe when using the nursery devices online

Staff must adhere to the following:

- Smartwatches/fitbits Must not be worn at any time while in the setting with the children.
- Mobile phones/smartwatches/fitbits can only be used on a designated break and then this must be away from the children
- Mobile phones/smartwatches/fitbits should be stored safely in staff lockers at all times during the hours of your working day
- No personal device is allowed to be connected to the nursery WIFI at any time
- The use of nursery devices, such as tablets, must only be used for nursery purposes
- The nursery devices will not have any social media or messaging apps on them
- Any apps downloaded onto nursery devices must be done only by management. This will ensure only age appropriate and safe apps will be accessible to staff or children using them
- Passwords / passcodes for nursery devices must not be shared or written down.



- During outings, staff will use mobile phones belonging to the nursery wherever possible. Photographs must not be taken of the children on any personal phones or any other personal information storage device. Only nursery owned devices will be used to take photographs or film videos
- Nursery devices will not be taken home with staff and will remain secure at the setting when not in use. If a device is needed to be taken home due to unforeseen circumstances then the person taking this device home must ensure it is securely stored and not accessed by another other individual and returned to nursery as soon as practically possible.

Parents' and visitors' use of mobile phones and smartwatches

Whilst we recognise that there may be emergency situations which necessitate the use of a mobile telephone, in order to ensure the safety and welfare of children in our care and share information about the child's day.

However, parents and visitors are kindly asked to refrain from using their mobile telephones whilst in the nursery or when collecting or dropping off their children. We encourage all parents to leave their electronic devices in the car wherever possible.

If you are found to be using your phone inside the nursery premises you will be asked to finish the call or take the call outside. On special occasions/event at the setting, if parents/carers are found to have their mobile while attending, they will be asked to leave this in a lock box or basket securely in the managers office until the end of the event when leaving the setting. The exception to this is nursery mobile that are used for marketing purposes. These mobile are not fitted with any sim and used for photo/videos only.

We do this to ensure all children are safeguarded and the time for dropping off and picking up is a quality handover opportunity where we can share details about your child.

Visitors or parents on a show round are requested to leave their mobile phones or smart watches in the safety of the office where they will be locked away safely.



Photographs and videos

At Golden Apples we recognise that photographs and video recordings play a part in the life of the nursery. We ensure that any photographs or recordings taken of children in our nursery are only done with prior written permission from each child's parent and only share photos with parents in a secure manner. We obtain this when each child is registered and we update it on a regular basis to ensure that this permission still stands.

Each nursery has CCTV installed which is used for the safety and wellbeing of all children, staff and visitors and can be shared to the appropriate governing bodies where necessary.

The CCTV will not be shown to parents to safeguard all other children.

We ask for individual permissions for photographs and video recordings for a range of purposes including: use in the child's learning journey; for display purposes; for promotion materials including our nursery website, brochure and the local press; and for security in relation to CCTV and the different social media platforms we use. We ensure that parents understand that where their child is also on another child's photograph, but not as the primary person, that may be used in another child's learning journey.

If a parent is not happy about one or more of these uses, we will respect their wishes and find alternative ways of recording their child's play or learning.

Staff are not permitted to take any photographs or recordings of a child on their own information storage devices e.g. cameras, mobiles, tablets or smartwatches and may only use those provided by the nursery. The nursery manager will monitor all photographs and recordings to ensure that the parents' wishes are met and children are safeguarded.

Parents are not permitted to use any recording device or camera (including those on mobile phones or smartwatches) on the nursery premises without the prior consent of the manager.

During special events, e.g. Christmas or leaving parties, staff may produce group photographs to distribute to parents on request. In this case we will gain individual permission for each child before the event. This will ensure all photographs taken are in line with parental choice. We ask that photos of events such as Christmas parties are not posted on any social media websites/areas without permission from parents of all the children included in the picture.

At Golden Apples we use tablets in the rooms to take photos of the children and record these directly on to their electronic learning journeys. We ensure that these devices are used for this purpose only and do not install applications such as social media or messaging sites on to these devices. The only exception is the marketing mobile which has access to the nursery Facebook and Instagram accounts for our social media content.



Golden Apples
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Nurturing great potential



We also do routine checks to ensure that emails and text messages (where applicable) have not been sent from these devices and remind staff of the whistleblowing policy if they observe staff not following these safeguarding procedures

Golden Apples Family Preschools and Day Nurseries
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