

HARPENDEN & DISTRICT PRIMARY HEAD'S CONSORTIUM

Chair

Miss Emma Simmons
Crabtree Infant and Junior School

Treasurer

Mrs Claire Wicks
Manland Primary School

Secretary

Mrs Helen Fitzakerly
Sauncey Wood Primary School

Dear Parents and Guardians,

Last week the Harpenden & District Primary Schools met to discuss the Smartphone Free Childhood campaign and to agree on our next steps as a group of schools.

We are writing to inform you that from September 2025, **Primary School aged children will not be allowed to bring a smartphone to school.**

This is the first stage, in what we feel is an important step in the right direction. The local secondary schools support this and are continuing to look at the ways that they can further support this campaign in the future.

You will be aware that we are not the first schools to change the rules on smartphones and this rule is now in place across St Albans and the majority of Primary schools in London. We know that this alone will not protect children from many of the issues which arise from smartphone use and access to social media and we will continue to ensure that we educate children throughout their years at school.

We ask that, where possible, you consider delaying giving your child a smartphone until they are older and if you feel your child needs a phone for safety reasons, consider a phone without internet connectivity (a 'brick' phone), such as a Nokia 3210 (now available online and in some well-known stores, in a variety of colours).

We know that many of you are keen to delay giving your child a smartphone, so we hope that the position we are adopting as a group of local schools will support you in your decision.

Yours sincerely,

Harpenden & District Primary Schools

Crabtree Infant School
High Beeches
Manland
Beech Hyde
Grove Junior
Kimpton
St Nicholas
St Hilda's
Batford Nursery
Harpenden Academy

Crabtree Junior School
Wood End
Roundwood Primary
Grove Infants
Sauncey Wood
The Lea
St Dominic's
St Hilda's
St Helen's