Bentley Avenue, Yaxley, Peterborough PE7 3ZT
Tel: 01733 703611 **Email:** help@fourfields.cambs.sch.uk
Headteacher: Mrs. Sue Blyth
Assistant Headteacher: Mrs. Lucy Hewerdine
School Business Manager: Mrs. Clare Watchorn
www.fourfields.cambs.sch.uk

12th October 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

Phones away, children first!

At Fourfields, we are always looking for ways to make our school an even safer, happier and more connected place for our children. As part of this commitment, we have introduced a new Mobile Phones and Personal Devices Policy, which sets out some important expectations for everyone using our school site. This can be accessed on the school website.

The principle behind the changes is simple: when we are at school, our children should always come first. We want our school grounds to be places where children feel seen, heard and valued, and where adults are present and engaged with the children and families around them.

From October 2026, Fourfields will operate as a mobile phone-free environment for adults on the school site. This means we are asking all parents and carers to:

- **Put your phone away before entering the school grounds.** This applies to the playground, gates, entrances, school office and all other areas of the site.
- **Avoid making or receiving calls, sending messages or using social media** while on the school site. If you need to make or take an urgent call, please leave the school premises first, wherever possible.
- **Please do not take photographs, videos or audio recordings** of children, staff or school activities unless the school has specifically given permission. This includes taking photographs of your own child where other children may appear in the background. Where photography is permitted at a school event, we will make the arrangements clear.
- **Use drop-off and collection as an opportunity to connect with your child.** A few moments of conversation, eye contact and listening can make such a difference to a child's day!

We recognise that phones are an important part of everyday life, and we are not asking anyone to leave theirs at home. We are simply asking that they are put away while you are on our school site. These expectations help us protect children's privacy and safeguarding, as well as encouraging the positive face-to-face relationships that make Fourfields such a special community.

What about children bringing phones to school?

We understand that some children may need a phone for their journey to or from school. If your child in Reception to Year 6 needs to bring one, it must be switched off or placed on silent before entering the school building and handed to the designated member of staff on arrival. It will be stored securely and returned at the end of the school day as your child leaves the premises. Children should not use their phones during the school day; if they need to contact home, this will normally be arranged through the school office.

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If your child does need to bring a mobile phone into school, please can we ask that you complete the Google Form giving consent.

Smart watches and similar devices must not be used to make calls, send messages, access social media or record during the school day. Where an individual medical or safeguarding need requires an exception, please speak to us so that appropriate arrangements can be agreed.

We will, of course, continue to provide clear guidance for school performances, sports days and other events where specific arrangements for photography may apply.

I appreciate your support as we introduce these expectations. They are not about making life more difficult for families; they are about protecting our children, respecting one another's privacy and creating the kind of welcoming, connected community in which everyone can thrive.

Thank you, as always, for working with us and for helping us to live out our SHINE values. Together, we can make sure that, at Fourfields, it is our children who have our full attention - not our phones!

With warmest wishes,

Sue Blyth

Headteacher