

What's happening in the news this week?



Let's have a look at this week's poster!

11th - 17th March 2024



Should mobile phones be banned in all classrooms?



Let's look at this week's story

Ministers have confirmed plans to ban the use of mobile phones in English schools and have released guidance for headteachers. The guidance is not statutory and offers schools different ways of introducing the ban. These include an order to leave all phones at home, handing them in on arrival, keeping them in inaccessible lockers or allowing pupils to keep them, on the condition they are not used or heard.



Learn more about this week's story [here](#).
Watch this week's useful video [here](#).
This week's Virtual Picture News [here](#).



How does it make me feel?



sad

despondent
disconsolate
dismal
doleful
downhearted
forlorn
gloomy
melancholic
miserable
woeful
wretched

angry

aggrieved
annoyed
discontented
disgruntled
distressed
exasperated
frustrated
indignant
offended
outraged
resentful
vexed

happy

beaming
buoyant
cheery
contented
delighted
enraptured
gleeful
glowing
joyful

confused

addled
baffled
bemused
bewildered
disorientated
indistinct
muddled
mystified
perplexed
puzzled

excited

animated
elevated
enlivened
enthusiastic
exhilarated
exuberant
thrilled

worried

agitated
anxious
apprehensive
concerned
disquieted
distraught
distressed
disturbed
fretful
perturbed
troubled
uneasy

overwhelmed

engulfed
inundated
overburdened
overloaded
saturated
submerged
swamped

afraid

alarmed
apprehensive
daunted
fearful
frantic
horrified
petrified
terrified

guilty

ashamed
compunctious
contrite
culpable
penitent
responsible
rueful

jealous

bitter
covetous
desirous
envious
envying
resentful
wary

thankful

appreciative
grateful
gratified
indebted
obliged
relieved

shocked

astonished
astounded
disconcerted
distressed
dumbfounded
horrified
staggered
startled
stunned
surprised

disgusted

affronted
appalled
horrified
repelled
repulsed
revolted
sickened

inspired

activated
encouraged
exhilarated
galvanised
influenced
motivated

embarrassed

ashamed
awkward
chagrined
demeaned
discomposd
humiliated
self-conscious
uncomfortable
uneasy
unsettled

interested

absorbed
captivated
curious
engaged
enthralled
fascinated
gripped
intrigued
riveted

This week's story looks at events related to ...





Read the information below about the new mobile phone guidance for schools.

What is the new guidance?

The Department for Education (DfE) has released guidelines for schools to help them stop the use of mobile phones by pupils during the school day.

Education Secretary for England, Gillian Keegan, has been promoting new government guidance.

It's thought that lots of schools already have policies for phones, but this may help schools that don't.

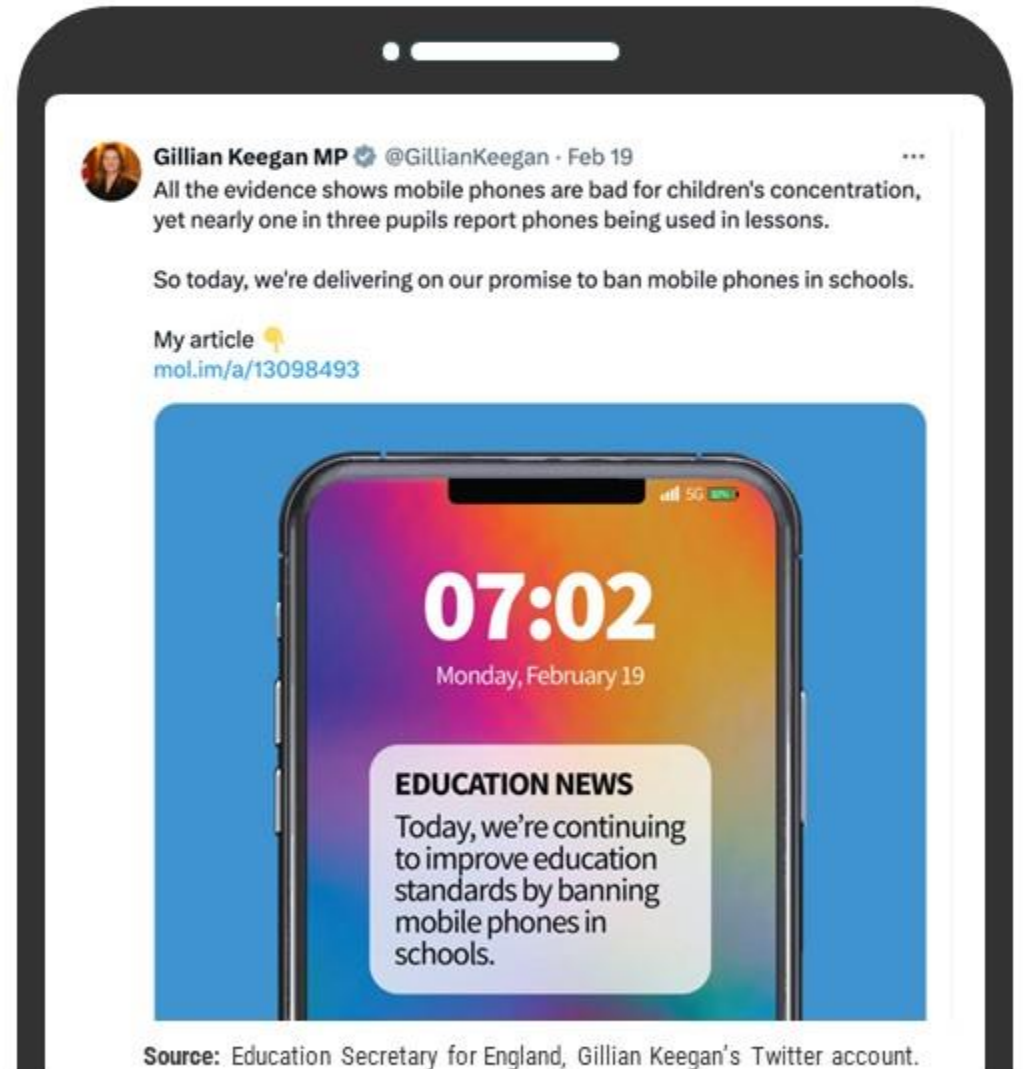


How to implement a successful policy prohibiting the use of mobile phones in your school

School leaders should develop and implement a policy to prohibit the use of mobile phones and other similar devices which reflects their school's individual contexts and needs. This will depend on several factors including the size of the school, and the age and needs of all pupils. Examples of successful approaches include:

- No mobile phones on the school premises
- Mobile phones handed into staff on arrival at school
- Mobile phones kept in secure location, which the pupil does not access throughout the school day
- Mobile phones are never used, seen or heard whilst at school

Picture and source: Department for Education (DfE).



Source: Education Secretary for England, Gillian Keegan's Twitter account.

Do you believe the guidance will help improve learning? Explain your thoughts.



Look at the resource below, which shows some examples of the digital technology we might find in the classroom.



Computer/laptop



Smartphone



Smartboard



Camera



Projector



Tablet

**Have you ever used any of them to help you learn?
Have you ever used any of them to do a different job?**



Look at the resource below, where some people share their experiences of mobile phones.

I use my smartphone for so many things. I would be lost without it! I use an online diary to keep track of all of my work and social events, I use online maps to navigate places I am unfamiliar with, I email, shop and bank, and all of my children's lunches, homework and behaviour charts are online, so I access these through my phone. I also stream films and TV programmes, take photographs and videos and use social media to keep in touch with all of my friends and family.

Afraz



A smartphone.

I look around me and all I see are people on phones. Families sit in restaurants not talking but staring at their little screens, people in waiting rooms not taking anything in, instead clicking away on their tiny devices, and rather than people enjoying an event in that moment, they are watching it through a screen as they video it. Mobile phones are not for me.

Debbie



Mobile phones circa late 1990s.

When I was at school in the late 1980s/1990s, I don't remember anyone having a mobile phone. If we needed to contact our parents, we used a telephone box. All of our schoolwork was handwritten, and we researched using books. Letters were sent home on paper. By the late 90s, some of my friends had a mobile phone. They used them to text, make phone calls and play a game called Snake.

Ian



**What impact do you feel mobile phones have on your life?
How do you think they may affect your future?
Will these impacts enhance or worsen life?**



Should mobile phones be banned in all classrooms?



Reflection



Mobile phones have revolutionised how we communicate and interact with others and the wider world. It's important to be mindful of how and when they are used.





Rule of Law

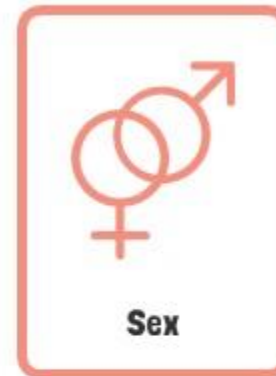
Sometimes bans can be put in place, which means something is officially or legally prohibited (disallowed). Rules and laws are there to help protect us and keep us safe.

Protected Characteristics



Our religion or belief can affect if, how and when we choose to use digital technologies.

We should never be treated unfairly because of our religion or belief.





UN Rights of a Child



Different countries have different rules and laws. If the laws of a country protect us better than the UN Rights of a child, then those laws should be used.



Useful vocabulary



Guidance

Help and advice.

Ministers have confirmed plans to ban the use of mobile phones in English schools and have released **guidance** for headteachers.

Implement

Start using or carry out something.

School leaders should develop and **implement** a policy to prohibit the use of mobile phones and other similar devices.

Inaccessible

Difficult or impossible to see or use.

These include an order to leave all phones at home, handing them in on arrival, keeping them in **inaccessible** lockers...

Prohibit

To officially or legally disallow something.

School leaders should develop and implement a policy to **prohibit** the use of mobile phones and other similar devices.

Revolutionised

To completely change something so that it is much better.

Mobile phones have **revolutionised** how we communicate and interact with others and the wider world.

Statutory

Decided or controlled by law.

The guidance is not **statutory** and offers schools different ways to introduce the ban.

Can you use them in your writing this week?

Picture News



Should mobile phones be banned in all classrooms?

Ministers have confirmed plans to ban the use of mobile phones in English schools and have released guidance for headteachers. The guidance is not statutory and offers schools different ways of introducing the ban. These include an order to leave all phones at home, handing them in on arrival, keeping them in inaccessible lockers or allowing pupils to keep them, on the condition they are not used or heard.



- Look at this week's poster and talk about what you can see. Read through the story and share your experiences of mobile phones and other devices.
- Read the information found on the assembly resource about the new mobile phone guidance for schools. Do you think the guidance will help improve learning? Explain your thoughts.
- Can you think of reasons why pupils may need phones in school? E.g., to contact parents or carers for travel plan changes. Do you feel that school policies on phones should be dependent on age?
- Watch this week's useful video, which shows pupils in Scotland discussing their thoughts on the use of mobile phones in schools. Make a list of the pros and cons they share.
- Talk about other digital technologies that you own or have used before. Which do you think are suitable for use in school and which at home? Are any good for helping you learn?

Reflection

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Picture News



KS1 focus

How can digital technology help us learn?



- Write 'digital technology' on the board. What do you think it is? What objects do you think are digital technologies? Can you see any around you?
- Digital technologies are the electronic systems, devices and resources that can help us learn, play, communicate and more! Are there any digital technologies in your classroom that help you learn?
- Look at resource 1, which shows some examples of the digital technology we might find in a classroom. Have you ever used any of them to help you learn? How did you use them?
- For each device on resource 1, discuss how it could be used to help you learn e.g., the camera could be used to photograph/video a balance in gymnastics so you can see how you could improve it, the smartphone, computer, or tablet could be used for maths games, reading a book or making music. Can you think of any other digital technologies you use to help you learn?
- Have you ever used digital technology to do a different job e.g., play a game, shop, watch a film? What digital technology do you have in your home? Do you have a washing machine or a microwave?
- Think about learning your number bonds to 10, learning to read and learning about another country in the world. How would you prefer to do each? Would you prefer to use digital technology or would you rather use a book, counters, dice or other resource?

Reflection

There are many things that digital technologies can help us do. In school, they can be used for learning, communicating and playing. There are other resources we can use to help us do this too.

Picture News



KS2 focus

How have mobile phones changed our lives?



- Make a list of the different things people use mobile phones for. Have you ever used a mobile phone before? How did you use it?
- Mobile phones were first invented in the 1970s, the first commercial mobile was released in the 1980s and they became more widely used in the 1990s. How long ago was this? Does this surprise you? What do you think life might have been like before mobile phones were used?
- Look at resource 2, where some people share their experiences of mobile phones. What impact do you feel mobile phones have on your life? How do you think they may affect your future? Will these impacts enhance or worsen life?
- For each person from resource 2, discuss how mobile phones have changed their lives. How have they enhanced or worsened each person's life? How do you think people contacted one another before mobile phones?
- Smartphones are mobile phones that perform many different functions, like a computer. They have touch screens, internet access and the capability to download apps. They gained popularity in 2007. Using Afraz's comment and any experiences you have with smartphones, discuss how they have changed people's lives.
- How and when we use mobile phones can be the difference between them enhancing and worsening life. What do you think this means? Do you agree?

Reflection

Mobile phones have changed people's lives - from the first ones that were used only for communication to the smartphones that are often used today. We are all different so how we choose to use them will be different too.



KS2 follow-up ideas

Option 1

Make a list of the pros and cons of mobile phones in school. Think about:

- How could they enhance your learning?
- How might they be a distraction?
- Will they relieve or add to pressures?

Repeat the task but make your lists of the pros and cons of mobile phones in society in general. Think about:

- What can mobile phones be used for?
- When and where have you seen them being used?
- Have you ever used a mobile phone out of school? How?

You could use your lists to write a discussion or argument or have a formal debate.

Option 2

Think about some of the digital devices you have at home or school such as tablets, phones, cameras, laptops. Often these devices are portable, meaning they can be easily carried or moved. Design a pouch that could be used to carry or move a digital device of your choice. Think about:

- What digital device will you make your pouch for?
- What size and shape will it need to be?
- How will your pouch protect the device?
- What materials will you use?
- How will you attach your material? Could you sew it?
- What equipment will you need?
- Will your pouch have a pattern or a design?

Once you have shared your designs and discussed any moderations/improvements, make your pouches!



KS1 follow-up ideas

Option 1

Use this opportunity to learn something using digital technology then compare learning it without. You could use the following examples:

- Ask your teacher to share a story using a book then using your projector and smartboard to share one online.
- Practise your number bonds using an online game or app then practise them using a board game, dice challenge or bingo.
- Find out an interesting fact about your favourite animal both with and without digital technology.

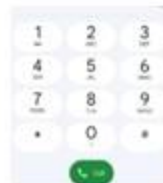
Discuss which ways you prefer to learn. Explain that digital technology can help us but it may not always be useful or the best way we can learn something.

Option 2

Mobile phones and other phones have a keypad so that we can press a sequence of numbers to call people. Have a look at a keypad or use the images below. Explore the following:

- Which numbers are even? Which are odd?
- How are the numbers organised?
- Can you say each number?
- Can you write each number in words?
- Can you find the total of each row of numbers?
- Can you find the total of each column of numbers?
- Can you find the total of all the numbers?

Challenge – can you see any letters? Why are they on the keypad?



This week's useful websites

This week's news story

www.bbc.com/news/uk-68334602

This week's useful video

Pupils in Scotland discuss phones in school
www.bbc.co.uk/newsround/av/45406278

This week's Virtual Picture News

www.picture-news.co.uk/discuss

This week's vocabulary

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Spiney Sightings

Pedalling to Paris

Two Penny Farthing enthusiasts are taking on a challenge to raise money for the charity, Macmillan Cancer Support. Matt Richardson and Bill Pollard are collecting sponsorship to ride on their Penny Farthing bicycles from Henley to Paris! In June, the two friends will pedal their way from Henley-on-Thames, Oxfordshire, UK to the capital of France, in memory of Mr Richardson's father. The two gentlemen can be seen wearing traditional dress whilst training for the event. 'As the ride will be in June, it'll hopefully be warm, so I have a vintage desert jacket and a pith helmet,' said Matt. A Penny Farthing is an early type of bicycle that was popular over a hundred and fifty years ago in the 1870s. Its name came from the largest and smallest British coins that were in use at the time - a penny, representing the huge front wheel and a much smaller farthing coin, the tiny back wheel. The front wheel often measured just over 2 metres in diameter.

Would you like to learn how to ride a Penny Farthing?

How do you think it would feel to travel this way?



Pictured: Matt Richardson and Bill Pollard (above) and a Penny Farthing (below).

Source: Henley to Paris on Penny Farthing Facebook page.



Pictured: Hedgehogs **Source:** Canva.



BBC Gardeners' World Magazine has announced that sightings of hedgehogs in people's gardens are on the rise! It is hoped that, after years of hedgehog numbers decreasing, the spikey mammals' numbers could be increasing in urban areas. The researchers, who conducted a survey of 2,000 people, said they are 'cautiously optimistic', following small signs that hedgehogs could be making a comeback. Garden sightings in urban areas of the arguably adorable creatures have gone up by two percent in the last year! The report shows thirty-three percent of people asked said they had spotted hedgehogs in their garden in 2023, up from thirty-one percent in 2022. The report also reveals actions that have helped the hedgehogs, for example creating wild

patches of 'messy' garden for hedgehogs to dig in, and making 'hedgehog highways' by installing 'hedgehog doors' or holes in fences so that they can travel around more safely. Kevin Smith, from BBC Gardeners' World Magazine, said, 'The recent surge in hedgehog sightings is a positive indication that we're making progress in coexisting with nature.' Did you know that hedgehogs are nocturnal animals? They eat insects, worms, slugs and berries, and their bodies have over 5,000 spines. Their name comes from where they build their nests, in 'hedges', and the noise they make, a small snorting, grunting sound similar to the noise made by a pig or warthog, 'hog'.

Have you ever seen a hedgehog? Can you think of anything you could do to make your local area more hedgehog-friendly?

Free Tuition Thanks To \$1bn Donation



Pictured: The University Hospital building and students at Albert Einstein College of Medicine in the Bronx, New York, USA. **Source:** Albert Einstein College of Medicine – Official @EinsteinMed X page.

Medical students at Albert Einstein College of Medicine in the Bronx, New York, USA, have been rejoicing as they have recently been told that they don't have to pay their tuition fees! This has been made possible due to a huge donation of \$1 billion made by a former professor at the college. All current fourth-year students will be refunded their spring 2024 tuition fees and from August of this year, all students at the medical college will receive free tuition! Dr Ruth Gottesman made the very generous gift on behalf of her late Wall Street investor husband. It is thought to be the largest donation made to any medical school in the country. Dr Gottesman said, 'I am very thankful to my late husband, Sandy, for leaving these funds in my care,

and I feel blessed to be given the great privilege of making this gift to such a worthy cause.' Dr. Yaron Tomer, a Dean at the University, commented on the 'transformational gift' saying, 'This donation radically revolutionises our ability to continue attracting students who are committed to our mission, not just those who can afford it. Additionally, it will free up and lift our students, enabling them to pursue projects and ideas that might otherwise be prohibitive. We will be reminded of the legacy this historic gift represents each spring as we send another diverse class of physicians out across the Bronx and around the world to provide compassionate care and transform their communities.'

Last week's topic:

How can you make your voice heard?



I agree that climate change is very important, but I don't agree with blocking the road because I think they should do something different. I agree with them because the government are not making sure the farmers are looked after properly and things need to be more fair.

2K Julian's Primary School

You can maybe get someone to help you be heard because two voices [are] better than one usually.

Ava

I believe this is a bad way to make your voice heard for instance if an ambulance came by or a fire engine came by as well as a police car, they would all need to get past quickly. Actions speak louder than words sometimes.

Katie

Let us know what you think about this week's news.

 www.picture-news.co.uk/discuss

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 @HelpPicture

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Share your thoughts and read the opinions of others

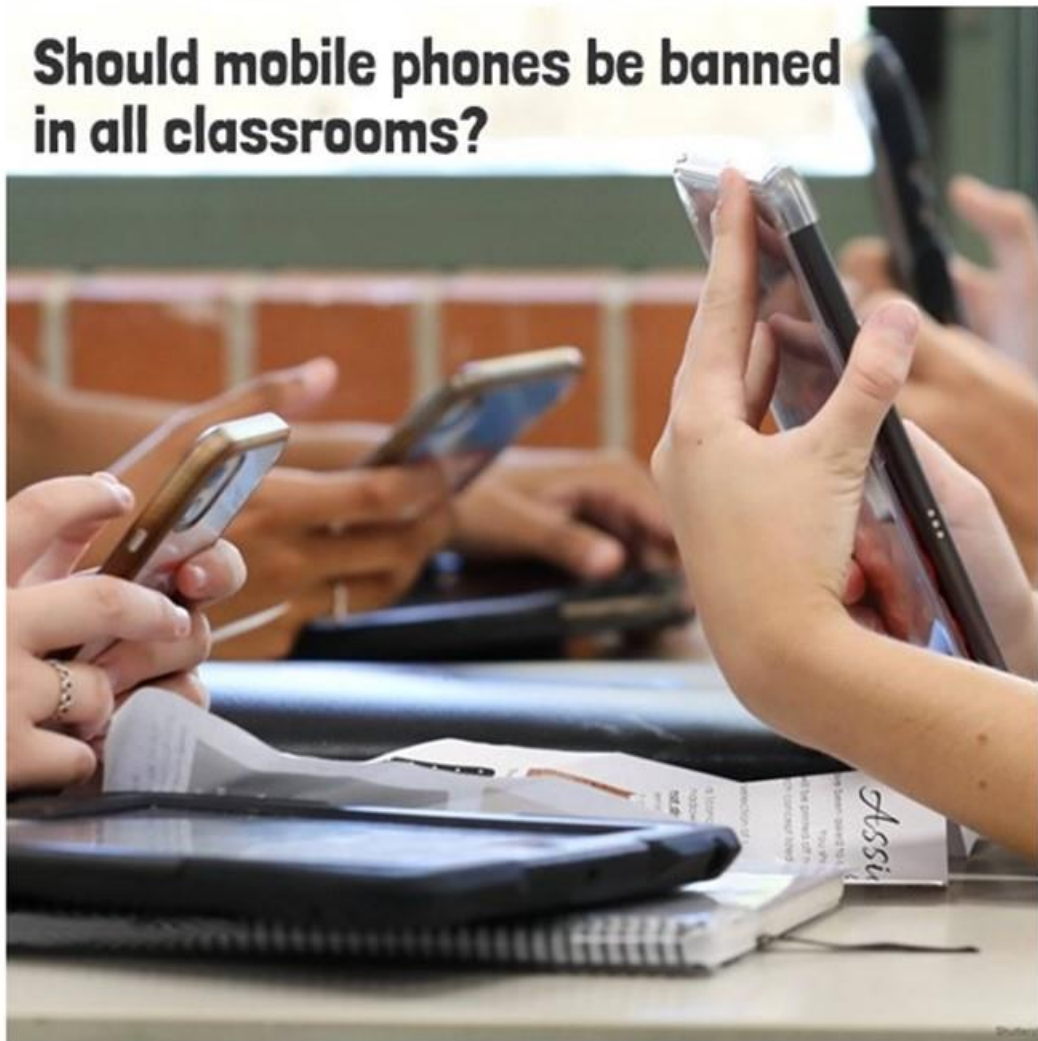
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TAKEHOME



Should mobile phones be banned in all classrooms?



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Things to talk about at home ...

- > Share your experience of mobile phones and other portable devices. Do you use them at home or at school? Do you enjoy using them?
- > Discuss with people at home your thoughts on the new guidance. Do you all agree that mobile phones should be banned in secondary school classrooms?

Please note any interesting thoughts or comments

Share your thoughts and read the opinions of others

www.picture-news.co.uk/discuss

