



TALAVERA JUNIOR SCHOOL  
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Executive Head: Mrs A Webb \* Head of School: Mrs L Harman-Box

Dear parents and carers,

### **Important messages**

***Bold Futures Federation will have a no phone policy from September 2025***

We are increasingly concerned about the impact of smartphones on our children, in-line with many other schools in Hampshire.

Smartphones are a big part of life today. Most adults have one; they are a fantastic tool for finding information and staying connected with family and friends.

However, there is now an **alarming amount of evidence and research on the negative effects of smartphones and social media on children and teenagers.**

These include:

- Poor mental health, such as depression, anxiety and low self-esteem
- Issues with cyber-bullying, attention, focus and sleep
- Exposure to dangerous and harmful content, and inappropriate material
- Opportunity cost: being highly addictive, phones often lead to hours spent on a device which reduces time spent playing, interacting and developing vital social skills.

Children often get their first phone in primary school and over 90% of 12-year-olds now have a smartphone. This period is crucial for brain development. A major study found that the younger a child gets a smartphone, the worse their mental health will be.

Hampshire schools are now coming together to take collective action, and commit to making Hampshire primary schools smartphone free.

**This means that pupils attending a Bold Futures federation school will not be permitted to have smartphones from September 2025. "Brick" phones will be accepted on a case-by-case basis.**

"Brick" phones do not have internet connectivity and are inexpensive. However, they allow your child to make calls in an emergency.

In addition, we are asking for your support to make our school sites mobile phone free in general. We had a huge and positive response from children following No Mobile May; we want to continue this opportunity to greet your child with a smile. Thank you for your support in this.

We are doing this to work together with families to safeguard children and preserve childhood. By doing so, we cannot only protect our children's mental health and wellbeing but we can also set a standard for how communities can come together to challenge the norms that no longer serve our children.

Further information will be sent home in September.

Please contact us if you have any further questions or concerns.

Yours faithfully,

Mrs Webb  
Executive Headteacher  
Bold Futures Federation

Mrs Harman-Box  
Head of School  
Talavera Junior School

Mrs Pinto  
Head of School  
Wellington Primary School