



# SHADE

Primary School



Knowlwood Road, Shade, Todmorden, Lancashire OL14 7PD

Headteacher: Mrs H M Clarkson

Telephone: (01706) 812913

Website: [www.shadeschool.sch.uk](http://www.shadeschool.sch.uk) Email: [admin@shade.calderdale.sch.uk](mailto:admin@shade.calderdale.sch.uk)

Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> June

Dear Parents

As you know, we do not permit children to have mobile phones in school. If they must bring them, there is a form for parents to complete before they are brought to school. The phones are then stored in a specific box on or in the class teacher's desk and children are not permitted to have them back until the end of the school day. This is to protect all of our children from inappropriate use of the phones and also to keep the focus on school and learning.

Technology has moved on and there are now a range of watches available that have several functions. We appreciate that children may be interested in their step-count and have accepted fitness monitor style watches as "a simple watch" as stated in our dress code. However, the "Smart" style watches (such as Apple watches) that can be linked to a phone via blue tooth, or that have independent 4G data access, are not permitted. These are mobile communication devices and as such are covered by our mobile phone protocol. Furthermore, these watches could be used to breach GDPR guidelines which we are legally obliged to uphold (eg for voice recordings without consent). Even if your child's watch is set to "Schooltime" it is easy for the child to briefly over-ride the restrictions and access features for messaging, calling or recording.

Please do not allow your child to wear this style of Smart Watch to school. If we are aware of a child wearing or carrying such a device, they will be asked to hand them in until the end of the day and then to take it home and not bring it back.

We are sure you understand that this comes from a desire to protect all of our children and look forward to your support.

Many thanks

Justine Sutcliffe  
(GDPR Manager)

