St George's C of E Primary School

Smart Watch and Air Tag Policy

St George's C of E School

School's theological-rooted Christian Vision

At St George's CE Primary school our vision is that every child upholds the Christian values with them in their daily lives. Our children strive to be confident, kind, thoughtful and selfless. You can see our vision come to life when walking through our school and in our classrooms. Our school motto is 'Jesus colours our love, our life, our learning'. We strive to live out this vision in everything we do in school to allow children to enjoy the fullness of life and enable them to flourish in the world in which they live.

Our vision is rooted in the Gospel of John and in particular chapter 10 'I have come that they may have life and have it to the full.' Our vision is rooted in the principle of Jesus' teaching that we must use his teaching to allow children to live life to the full and be able to flourish in their life within and beyond school. Our school vision encompasses our 6 Christian values (compassion, love, truthfulness, thankfulness, forgiveness and hope)

September 2025

Policy adopted:- September 2025

Policy to be reviewed:- September 2027

Signed on behalf of Governing Body:- G.JAMES

Signed by the Headteacher:- J.Young

St George's CE Primary School
Policy on Location Tracking Devices and Smart Watches

Purpose and Scope

This policy sets out the school's position on the use of location-tracking devices, including AirTags, smart watches with GPS functionality, and similar technology. It applies to all pupils, staff, volunteers, and visitors within school, at after-school clubs, and on all external trips, visits, and residentials.

What Are Location Tracking Devices?

- Examples: Apple AirTags, Tile trackers, GPS-enabled smart watches, or any device capable of transmitting or logging real-time location.
- Intended Use: Typically used to track personal items (keys, luggage, wallets).
- Misuse: Sometimes used by parents/carers to track children without their knowledge or consent.

School Position

- Pupils are not permitted to wear or carry location-tracking devices, smart watches, or other GPS-enabled devices while at school or during school-organised activities.
- If a pupil is found carrying such a device, it will be confiscated until the end of the school day and parents/carers will be informed.

Reasons for This Policy

1. Safeguarding & Privacy
    - Unauthorised tracking of pupils, staff, or other children is a safeguarding risk.
    - Devices may notify nearby smartphone users of their presence, potentially exposing location data.
    - Tracking adults without their consent is illegal.
2. Data Protection
    - Some devices have additional features (e.g. alarms, two-way communication, or remote listening) which pose data protection and legal concerns.
3. Wellbeing
    - Unexpected changes in trip routes, technical faults, or loss of devices may cause unnecessary anxiety for parents/carers and children.
4. Loss or Damage
    - To prevent disputes over damage or theft, the school does not allow smart watches or jewellery (other than a simple watch).

Communication Protocol

- If parents/carers need to contact their child during the school day or on a trip, they must do so through the school office.
- Staff will ensure that children are always supervised and safe during school hours and on visits.

Responsibilities

- Parents/Carers: Ensure children do not bring prohibited devices into school.
- Staff: Enforce this policy fairly and consistently.
- Pupils: Follow school rules and respect the privacy of others.

Policy Review

This policy will be reviewed annually, or sooner if changes in technology or safeguarding practice require it.

Summary for Parents/Carers

At St George's CE Primary School, children are always supervised during the school day and on visits. For safeguarding, privacy, and wellbeing reasons, pupils are not permitted to wear or carry smart watches or location-tracking devices such as AirTags. If found, these items will be confiscated and returned at the end of the day. Communication with your child during the school day should always be through the school office.

Linked Policys

Safeguarding Policy
Mobile Phone Policy
Digital Strategy