



Gede Forest School

Phone Use & Screen Time Policy

Grow With Us

This policy ensures that our forest school remains a safe, nurturing, and screen-free learning environment where children are encouraged to engage with nature, hands-on activities, and each other.

1. Staff Use of Phones

- Personal phones must not be used during school hours.
- Staff must not share personal phone numbers with parents, guardians, or students.
- Staff must never use personal phones to take photos, videos, or recordings of children. The school phone is the only approved device for taking photos of children and these photos can be used only for weekly email updates to parents. Any other use of photos taken requires prior approval from parents.
- The school phone is the only approved device for contacting parents, guardians, or external parties. It should be used for school-related communication and in case of emergencies.

2. Visitors, Parents, and Carers

- All visitors, including parents and carers, are expected to follow the same phone-use policy while on school grounds.
- Personal phones should not be used to take photos, videos, or show children content at any time whilst at school.

3. Screen Time for Children

- Children must not be shown any content on personal phones by staff, parents, ayahs, or visitors.
- Children must not be shown content on the school laptop.
- If a teacher believes that showing digital content would significantly enhance learning, prior approval must be obtained from the senior leadership.

Any screen-based activity approved by leadership will be:

- Age-appropriate.
- Strictly limited in duration.
- Directly linked to the learning objective.

4. School Laptop Use



- The school laptop is provided for lesson planning and professional work only.
- Staff may not use the laptop for personal activities (e.g., emails, browsing, social media).
- Children are not permitted to use the laptop.

5. Future Review of Screen Time

- The school recognizes that as children grow, their learning needs may change.
- The policy will be reviewed regularly by senior leadership and staff.
- Limited, purposeful, and supervised screen time may be introduced in the future in strict moderation, aligned with the children's age and educational requirements.

6. Breaches of Policy

- Any staff, visitor, or parent found to be in breach of this policy will be reminded of the rules.
- Repeated or serious breaches may lead to further action, including restrictions on access to school grounds (for visitors) or disciplinary procedures (for staff).