

Wombwell Park Street Primary School

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Chief Executive Officer of the ECM Trust: Mrs G Foster-Wilson Headteacher: Mrs C Lawson Deputy Headteacher: Mrs L Longden Assistant Headteachers: Miss C McGinnes and Mr A Fidment School Business Manager: Mrs C Turner

Friday 12th May 2023

Dear Parents / Carers,

RE: Smartwatches

We would like to send out a polite reminder that we request children **do NOT** wear a Smartwatch to school if it has the functionality to take photographs/make phonecalls on it.

Parents / carers sign to say whether or not they allow their child to have a photograph taken in school when they are admitted to Park Street and whether they allow it to be used on the internet etc. Due to the modern-day world, understandably, some parents do not want their child's picture on the internet. Whilst staff are incredibly vigilant in terms of safeguarding, there are times in the day when children could potentially take photographs on such devices. This could of course mean that these photos are then instantaneously synchronised to other devices (outside of school) and are at risk of being shared with unknown sources or published on the internet / social media e.g. via Bluetooth / 4G.

This is a huge safeguarding matter to us.

If you absolutely need children to wear their Smartwatch to and from school, for whatever reason, then they need to be handed in to their class teacher at the start of the day and collected at the end of the day (as they would a mobile phone). School policy is for the children to wear a small watch - not a camera. We have plenty of clocks, computers and mobile devices in school for the children to tell the time.

We thank you in anticipation of your support in this important matter.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs L Firth and Mr A Fidment Online Safety Leads

