



Focus on...

Phones and Images

To keep children safe, your setting will have its own policy and procedures regarding staff mobile phone use. This is often detailed as part of a setting safeguarding policy. This should also include any devices with image taking and sharing capabilities such as iPads and smart watches. Policies and procedures should be discussed within the setting, be communicated clearly and respected by all users, including visitors and parents. There is also no requirement for you to have a separate mobile phone policy, however you may decide that it would be useful to have one in order clarify to your staff in what circumstances they may use their mobile phones.

EYFS

The updated EYFS 2024 states
Safeguarding policies must include:

- How mobile phones, cameras and other electronic devices with imaging and sharing capabilities are used in the setting.

Smart watches

We are all aware of the health benefits to wearing a smart watch, however many have built in cameras. For some settings, smart watches are allowed if set on flight mode so any features are then disabled. Other settings do not allow them to be worn and they are treated in the same context as a mobile phone.

Images

All settings should have arrangements regarding the taking and use of images, which is linked to their safeguarding and child protection policy.

Under the Data Protection Act (1998) photographs and videos of adults and children are regarded as personal data and must be respected as such.

Images of children or staff should only be taken using setting equipment, used for the purpose taken then deleted from any memory card.

Useful links

[Professional and Personnel Relationships
\(saferrecruitmentconsortium.org\)](https://www.saferrecruitmentconsortium.org)

