



Christchurch Kindergarten Children's Nursery Limited

Safeguarding children, young people and vulnerable adults procedures

50a E-safety Smart Watch/ other Smart devices Policy

Christchurch Kindergarten Nurseries Ltd recognise that smart watches are a part of everyday life for Parents, Carers and Staff. This policy is part of the nurseries commitment to safeguarding the welfare of children in our care. Our intention is to provide an environment reducing the following concerns:

- 1) Staff being distracted from their work with the children
- 2) The inappropriate use of smart devices.

Smart Watches/ other Smart devices there are many health benefits for the use of them such as counting steps and heart rate. To ensure the safe wearing of Smart devices staff must:

- The device to be worn in 'flight mode' or Bluetooth disconnected, this will ensure there is no internet connectivity to access notifications or Wi-Fi.
- Staffs understand they may not use their device to receive calls or check messages whilst at the Kindergarten as this creates distraction and potential dangers.
- Staffs are to be vigilant of others checking their devices and remind them of the Kindergarten policy and procedures of the safe wearing of a smart items.
- Photographs can only be processed from a smart device with a mobile in close proximity; staff are reminded that the safe storage of a mobile phone is in their locker or bag kept in the staff room or a container provided for mobiles.
- Staff should not use their smart device to access photos or images whilst on Kindergarten premises (indoors or outdoors) and whilst on local trips/outings.
- Where ongoing technology advances Christchurch Kindergarten reserves the rights to request the removal of a smart watch if the safety of a child[ren] is at risk.

We remind staff that this approach is also for their protection, otherwise they could face allegations. We bring it back to the case of Vanessa George, who served a ten-year prison sentence after being found guilty of sexual assault and making and distributing indecent pictures of children.

It is the responsibility of all members of staff to be vigilant and report any concerns about inappropriate use of smart watch devices to the Nursery Manager.

Policies & Procedures of Christchurch Kindergarten Children's Nursery Limited (CKCNL)

Reviewed June 2024