

MOBILE PHONES

Stepping Stones fosters a 'culture of safety' in which the children and staff are protected from abuse, harm, and distress. We therefore have a clear policy on the acceptable use of mobile phones that is understood and adhered to by everyone: staff, children and parents.

Abiding by the terms of Kids Club's mobile phone policy ensures that we all:

- Protect children from harm and abuse
- Prevent staff from being subject to false allegations
- Help staff remain focused on the care of children
- Work in an open and transparent environment.

Staff use of mobile phones

Personal mobile phones belonging to members of staff are kept in the ipad tray in the hall cupboard during working hours. If a member of staff needs to make an urgent personal call they can use the Kids Club phone or make a personal call from their mobile in the courtyard room.

If a member of staff has a family emergency or similar and needs to keep their mobile phone to hand, prior permission must be sought from the Manager or Deputy. Under no circumstances may staff use their personal mobile phones to take photographs at Kids Club during working hours.

Children's use of mobile phones

Whilst we understand that some children have mobile phones, we actively discourage them from using their phones within Kids Club. Kids Club does not accept any responsibility for loss or damage to mobile phones brought to Kids Club by the children.

Children must not use their mobile phone to take photographs of any kind whilst at Kids Club. If they want a photograph of a particular activity, they can ask a member of staff to take one using Kids Club camera.

Visitors' use of mobile phones

In the interest of safeguarding, we ask all parents and visitors not to use their phones or other mobile devices on club premises. Taking of photographs by parents or visitors is strictly prohibited. If a parent would like to have a photograph of their child involved in an activity or at play, they can ask a member of staff to take one using Kids Club camera.

This policy was adopted by: Stepping Stones Kids Club

Date: March 2023

To be reviewed: March 2024

Written in accordance with the Statutory Framework for the Early Years Foundation Stage (2021): Safeguarding and Welfare Requirements: Child Protection [3.4]