



Somerdale Educate Together Smartphone Free School Consultation

Parents' and carers' views regarding becoming a Smartphone Free School were surveyed in Term 6 of the 2024-25 academic year. The consultation closed on Monday, 16th June, after a two-week consultation period. There were 107 responses in total, including families from the new reception intake starting in 2025-26.

Key Findings:

- The survey represented the views of parents/carers of **154 children**.
- **87%** of respondents were in favour of the school becoming a Smartphone Free School.
- **80%** of respondents indicated that smartphones should not be used in the primary school phase.
- **79%** of respondents indicated they would be willing to sign a voluntary pledge to delay their child's smartphone use until secondary school.
- The survey indicated that parents/carers were in favour of the school organising training on topics relating to smartphone alternatives and e-safety.

Outcome:

- Somerdale Educate Together Primary School will become a Smartphone Free School starting from September 2025.

Next Steps/Actions:

Term 6:

- Share results with key stakeholders, including parents/carers.
- Set up a Smartphone Free School working party including all stakeholders.
- Provide children with research relating to smartphones and create opportunities for discussion.

Term 1:

- Provide stakeholders with guidance on the definition of a Smartphone Free School and how it would work in practice.
- Address misconceptions regarding Smartphone Free Schools noted in comments from the consultation.
- Update existing policies to reflect the new Smartphone Free School status.
- Share the timeline and key implementation milestones, including the updated online safety policy.



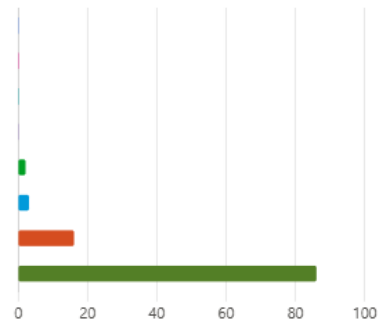
Results of the Smartphone Free Consultation

1. Year group of child/ren at Somerdale Educate Together Primary School

Class	Count
Pre-School (Turtles)	13
Reception (Otters)	11
Year 1 (Wildcats)	15
Year 2 (Hedgehogs)	19
Year 3 (Bumblebees)	17
Year 4 (Puffins)	19
Year 5 (Elephants)	22
Year 6 (Leopards)	25
Reception (2025-26)	13
Total	154

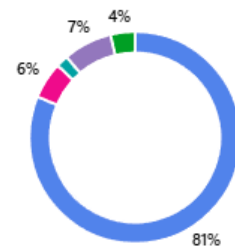
2. At what age do you believe children should receive their first smartphone?

Reception	0
Year 1	0
Year 2	0
Year 3	0
Year 4	2
Year 5	3
Year 6	16
Not within the Primary School Phase	86



3. Do you support the school becoming a Smartphone Free School?

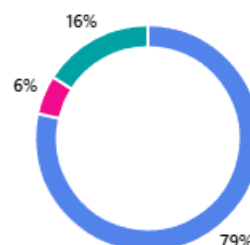
Strongly support	87
Somewhat support	6
Not sure	2
Somewhat oppose	8
Strongly oppose	4





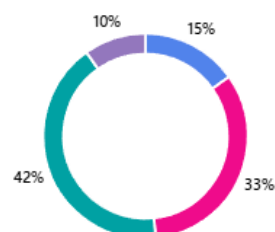
4. Would you be willing to sign a voluntary pledge to delay your child's smartphone use until secondary school

● Yes	84
● Maybe	6
● No	17



5. What support would help your family with this transition?

● Parent workshops or information sessions	28
● Guidance on safer tech alternatives (e.g. GPS watches)	61
● Tips and tools for talking to children about phones	77
● Other	18





Thematic Analysis – 46 Additional Comments:

Theme	Count
Becoming a Smartphone Free School will improve children's wellbeing including mental health.	24
There needs to be education on smartphone/e-safety/social media education within the primary phase.	9
Smartphone Free Schools reduce peer pressure on children/parents/carers.	6
This is not a school matter. This should not be consulted on.	3
Positive step forward	2
This should extend to ipads/tablets/laptops	1
Smartphones are fine for children in Year 6 if carefully managed.	4
Smartphones enable parents/carers to track their children's walk to and from school.	2
Somerdale is already a Smartphone Free School.	1