



**BARWELL CHURCH OF ENGLAND JUNIOR SCHOOL
WORKING IN PARTNERSHIP WITH ST MARY'S CHURCH BARWELL**

HEADTEACHER: MRS LISA STEWART

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Friday 16th October 2026

Dear Barwell Families,

As many of you know, joining the Discovery Schools Trust marks a significant and exciting change for our school. As part of this transition, we are working closely with the Trust to align a number of our policies and procedures with those used across all Trust schools. This helps ensure a consistent approach for pupils, families and staff while maintaining high standards of safeguarding, teaching and learning.

One of the policies we are introducing as part of this process is the **Pupil Acceptable Use Policy (see attached)**. The policy outlines the expectations for pupils when using technology, devices, the internet and online services in school and reflects the Trust's approach to ensuring technology is used safely and responsibly.

As part of this alignment, there is one significant change that parents and carers should be aware of. From **1st November**, pupils will no longer be permitted to wear smartwatches in school. Whilst we recognise that many families use smartwatches for communication and convenience, this change has been made to bring our school in line with the Trust's expectations and to support safeguarding, minimise distractions and promote a focused learning environment for all pupils. (For further information, please see the letter attached from Discovery Schools Academy Trust)

Attached to this email, you will find the Acceptable Use Policy and a letter discussing our policy around smartwatches. We would be grateful if you could take the time to read the policy with your child and then complete the linked Microsoft Form ([Discovery Trust Acceptable Use Agreement- Form to be completed](#)) to confirm that you have read and understood its contents. This acknowledgement will help us ensure that all members of our school community understand and support the expectations for safe, responsible and positive use of technology. We appreciate your support as we continue to embed Trust-wide practices and ensure the best possible experience for all pupils. **Please complete the form by Friday 30th October.**

If you have any questions regarding the policy or any of the changes being introduced, please do not hesitate to contact the school.

Kind regards,

Katie Harris

IT Lead

Barwell Church of England Junior School



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