



23/09/2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

We are writing to explain how Discovery Schools Trust approaches artificial intelligence (AI) and digital technology, and to confirm the Trust's position on wearable technology in school. Our aim is to prepare pupils for a changing digital world while keeping safeguarding, privacy, wellbeing and high-quality learning at the centre of every decision.

Our approach to AI and digital technology

Technology is used purposefully, alongside reading, writing, discussion, practical activity, creativity and direct teaching. It is not a replacement for excellent teaching, professional judgement or the strong relationships at the heart of our schools. **The Trust does not permit unrestricted use of AI tools.** Any approved platform must have a clear educational purpose and be reviewed against safeguarding, educational, technical and data protection requirements.

For pupils in EYFS, Key Stage 1 and Key Stage 2, Adobe Express is currently the only approved AI-enabled platform and is used under direct teacher supervision. For secondary pupils aged 13 and above, Microsoft Copilot is the Trust's approved generative AI platform. Access is managed through school accounts, used only for planned educational activities.

Pupils are taught to use technology responsibly, protect personal information, evaluate online information critically and recognise that AI-generated content may be inaccurate or misleading.

Wearable technology in school

From 1st November 2026, pupils must not bring or wear wearable technology on school premises unless the Headteacher or Principal has given written permission in advance.

This includes smart watches, fitness trackers, camera-enabled watches, smart glasses, recording badges or pendants, AI-enabled wearables, devices that send or receive messages or notifications, and devices that can record, photograph, film, listen, livestream, analyse or process information about people nearby. These devices can create safeguarding, privacy, data protection, behaviour and learning concerns, including recording or processing information without others knowing and causing unnecessary distraction or anxiety. The position applies across the school day and on school premises, including classrooms, corridors, playgrounds, wrap-around care, trips, clubs, holiday camps and school events, unless a specific written exception has been agreed.

If a pupil brings a wearable device to school, staff will follow the school's usual behaviour, safeguarding and confiscation procedures. Parents or carers may be contacted and asked to collect the device where appropriate. Please check that your child leaves smart watches, fitness trackers and similar devices at home. A standard analogue or non-smart watch may be worn if a watch is needed.





Medical, disability-related and SEND exceptions: If your child has a genuine need for a specialist device, please contact the school before it is brought onto site. Requests will be considered individually and, where appropriate, supported by a written risk assessment. Permission will only be given where the device is necessary, proportionate and can be used safely.

Policies and parent agreements

These arrangements are set out in the Trust's Pupil Acceptable Use Policy. If you have questions, or wish to discuss an exception or consent requirement, please contact your child's school.

Thank you for your support in helping us provide a safe, inclusive and focused learning environment while preparing pupils to become life ready, digital ready and future ready.

Yours sincerely,

Mike Sanderson
Chief Technology Officer
Discovery Schools Trust

