



Rucstall Primary School

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Dear Parents/Carers

Government Technology Consultation: Growing up in the online world

We are writing to make you aware of a current government consultation relating to children, technology and online experiences. This consultation is led by the government and is separate from any individual school policy. It is seeking views from parents and carers, children (10+) and the wider community on children's use of technology and its impact.

As many of you will know, from September 2026 Rucstall Primary School will be moving to a smartphone-free approach. We are taking this step as part of a wider, community-based approach alongside other local Basingstoke schools, aiming to support healthy habits, wellbeing and positive social development for children. From September 2026, only 'brick phones' (phones that allow calls and texts only, with no internet access) will be permitted to be stored at school.

While the school's decision is not the subject of the consultation, the Governing Body would strongly encourage as many parents and carers as possible to take part in the government consultation and share their views. We would also invite pupils aged 10 and over to contribute their own perspectives where appropriate. In addition, the Full Governing Body will be submitting a response on behalf of the school. The consultation closes on 26th May.

The consultation can be accessed here:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/growing-up-in-the-online-world-a-national-consultation>

Thank you for taking the time to contribute.

Kind regards

The Governing Body
Rucstall Primary School