

Horn Park School

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Executive Head Michelle Bernard
Headteacher Jack Green



2nd September 2025

Dear Parents and Carers,

Creating a Welcoming, Phone-Free Playground

At Horn Park, we are always looking for ways to strengthen communication and connection across our school community — not just inside the classroom, but in the wider community.

A huge part of our school development plan this year is to build children's speaking and listening skills (oracy). As part of this, we are gently encouraging a simple change: making our playground a **phone-free zone** during drop-off and pick-up.

This isn't about judgement — we all use our phones for important reasons. But we also know that when children arrive at or leave school, a warm greeting or brief conversation can make all the difference to how they feel. Just a few moments of connection can help children feel seen, safe and ready for their day.

You'll see new signs going up in the playground as a positive reminder. We're asking all adults to please save phone calls or messages for before or after you come through the gates — and help us create a space full of smiles, greetings and good conversation about the day ahead, or what has been learnt.

I will speak about this more at the **Headteacher briefing**, on **Thursday 4th September at 9am and 6pm**.

Thank you, as always, for your continued support and for helping us build a kind, connected school community.

Warm regards,

Jack Green
Headteacher