

## **Woodthorpe Junior and Infant School**

### **Confiscation and Care of Pupils' Property Policy**

#### School Responsibility

If a school confiscates something belonging to a pupil or takes it for safekeeping the law imposes a duty on the school to take reasonable care of it. There is also a presumption that if the item is lost or damaged whilst in the school's care, the loss will be due to the school's negligence and it will have to compensate the owner. To avoid liability the school will have to prove that it was not negligent.

#### School Actions

To ensure that the school looks after valuable belongings, the Governing Body has determined that we will implement this procedure:

- Parents are informed that unless children have been asked to bring something in, they should not bring anything in at all.
- Woodthorpe J and I School will, when occasion demands, confiscate or accept a pupil's belongings for safekeeping.
- Such occasions will arise when a pupil brings in an item that may cause harm or offence to others and or when pupils bring in items that are obviously of value which require safekeeping.
- Confiscated items or items accepted for care, that are of obvious value, will be taken to the school office and entered in a record book.
- The item or items will be labelled with the child's name and then locked in the school safe.
- The parent/guardian of the child will be required to collect the item and sign for it.
- If a parent deems it necessary that their child has access to a mobile phone for use on the journey to and from school, the pupil must hand their mobile phone to the school office staff for safe keeping during school hours. The child must sign when giving in and collecting the phone.
- The school cannot accept responsibility for items that are not brought to the attention of members of staff.
- The school will follow the Procedure for Dealing with Incidents of Sexting where appropriate.
- This policy will be communicated to pupils, parents and staff.

#### **The Rights of Every Child**

Woodthorpe JI School uses the U.N. Convention of the Rights of the Child to ensure that every policy supports the improvement of life chances for children.

Articles: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 17, 19 and 29.

Signed:

Approved: 25<sup>th</sup> January 2018

Review: January 2021