



Ecclesfield Primary School

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Executive Head: L Chadwick

23rd March 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

Today, your child attended an assembly about this year's **Smartphone Project**, an initiative designed by Ecclesfield Secondary School to help young people reclaim their time and focus. We were incredibly moved by the children's response; many spoke honestly about feeling like they "waste a lot of their lives" scrolling or being stuck behind a screen.

We are looking for a group of brave volunteers to take on a three-week challenge: **trading their smartphones and tablets for a simpler way of living.**

Our Objective

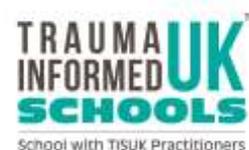
The goal of this project is to give children a "digital reset." By stepping away from social media, endless scrolling, and gaming apps, we hope to help them:

- **Reconnect** with offline hobbies and real-world interactions.
- **Improve focus** and mental well-being.
- **Build resilience** by proving they can thrive without a constant digital connection.

How the Project Works

If your child chooses to volunteer, the process is simple but significant:

1. **The Hand-In:** On **April 27th**, children will hand in their smartphones and tablets to be locked away safely at Ecclesfield Secondary School for three weeks.
2. **The "Brick" Alternative:** Each child will be provided with a "Nokia-style" brick phone and a SIM adapter. This allows them to stay in contact with you via calls and texts without the distractions of the internet.
3. **The Commitment:** The project runs from **April 27th to May 18th.**



4. **Support & Flexibility:** We recognise this is a big challenge. While we encourage them to stick with it, any child who finds it too difficult is free to opt-out at any time.

Why This Matters

This project is organised by **Ecclesfield Secondary School**, and we are proud to be joining forces with **Lound Junior, Windmill Hill and High Green** schools. Together, we want to show our children that they are in control of their technology, not the other way around.

You can watch a short film about last year's successful project here: Ecclesfield Smartphone Project Film:
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Cj8CjfIu-o>

Next Steps

Because this is a challenging undertaking, it must be **your child's choice** to volunteer. If they are keen to be brave and take part, please complete the Parental Consent Form by 11.59pm on **Thursday 26th March**:

[S35 Unplugged - Ecclesfield Primary School - Fill out form](#)

Below is the timetable of the project:

| | | |
|---|--|---|
| Monday 13th April 5:30pm- 6:30/7pm | Information/Logistics Meeting | Lady Mabel Hall, Ecclesfield Secondary School |
| Monday 27th April 5:30pm-7pm | "The Big Hand In" | Lady Mabel Hall, Ecclesfield Secondary School |
| Monday 18th May 5:30pm-7pm | Celebratory/Ceremonial return of the phones | Lady Mabel Hall, Ecclesfield Secondary School |

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact me.

Kind regards
 Sheryl Garner
 RHE Lead

