

St Michael's Nursery

Screen Time Policy



At nursery our practice reflects the Government Screen Time Guidance for Under-5s and this is also an EYFS requirement as from September 2026.

[Baby and toddler screen time guidance - Best Start in Life](#)

We support healthy brain development through shaping healthy screen time habits at nursery and supporting parents to do so at home.

Parents are encouraged to visit the Best Start in Life for up to date guidance on using screens at home with children.

Screen Time at Nursery

Children aged under 2 years

We do not use screen time with the youngest children in our setting and it is advised that, at home, children of this age are only using screens for communication, such as a video call with a family member.

Children aged 2 – 5 years

It is advised that children aged 2 – 5 years have a **limit of 1 hour per day** on screen time.

At nursery we are very limited in our use of screens and this is only used to introduce a new topic or to find out information with the children, for example 'how does jellyfish swim?'. This would be no more than 5 minutes and would be through a trusted children's platform such as Youtube Kids/ BBC Bitesize.

Therefore it is advised that families who have children at our setting, should calculate this 5 minutes into their overall 1 hour daily limit.

Safeguarding and screens

- ✓ A very limited and short screen time will be used at nursery with an intention to discover a new topic or new information.

- ✓ This will always be on an online platform designed for children and with safe restrictions.
- ✓ Staff will watch the clip prior to the children viewing, to ensure no advertisements, no unsuitable material within the content and auto play content is avoided.
- ✓ The screen time is limited to this video clip and will not continue into further scrolling.
- ✓ An adult will always be present and focused during the viewing of this screen time.
- ✓ Children do not have access to screens without an adult .
- ✓ The screen time content will not be overstimulating, or fast paced.
- ✓ Screens are not used to calm the children or to manage behaviour
- ✓ Screen time is not used at a mealtime and not an hour before sleep
- ✓ Screens are not playing in the background and when tablets are used to play music for a dance/ movement activity the screens are faced down. Music is not played as a background noise continuously, to ensure children's focus and listening skills are encouraged during play .

Inclusion

This screen time limit does not apply to children with SEN who use Screen-Based Assistive Technology

Policy 1st Sept 2026

Review September 2027

