

## Policy Statement

### Use of Mobile Phones in school-based workshops and creative programmes

At Rural Media Charity, we recognize the importance Safeguarding within schools and need for rules around the use of mobile phones within an educational environment. However we also see the value in the use of phone handsets for creative workshops and hands-on activities. Both to enhance documentation and engagement, and for content creation we promote the use of mobile phones as cameras for educational purposes. This enables students and staff to create meaningful content, document projects, record demonstrations, and reflect on their learning experiences. As part of our work we also emphasize the importance of responsible and safe mobile phone usage. Students will be guided on ethical photography, digital privacy, and consent when capturing images and videos. This will help foster digital responsibility and awareness of appropriate technology use.

To ensure a focused and respectful learning environment, mobile phone use will be limited strictly to photography and video recording for workshop-related activities. None of our handsets contain SIM cards and only have apps relating directly to the purpose of content creation.

Students are not permitted to use personal devices and social media posting, and other distractions will not be part of any workshop sessions.

Content distribution will be discussed with the school / learning group before the project begins. Content created for pre-agreed platforms will be distributed only by Rural Media Charity or its agreed organisational partner and the necessary release forms and permissions will be obtained before the project begins.

We appreciate the cooperation of students and staff in using this technology responsibly to support our educational goals.

For any questions or further guidance, please contact Julie Colman, Head of Production and Safeguarding Lead [juliec@ruralmedia.co.uk](mailto:juliec@ruralmedia.co.uk)