



TGMS 2025-26

Assembly Agenda:

- British Values: **Individual Liberty with Guiding Digital Childhoods**

Conflict Conundrum

A group of pupils have been talking a lot about mobile phones and group chats at home. A few of them already have phones (hand-me-downs from older siblings) and enjoy sending messages and having private conversations in the evenings. They start pressuring others in the group, saying things like, "You need a phone too, or you'll miss out," and "We can't talk properly unless everyone has one." One pupil feels uncomfortable - they don't have a phone yet and know their family has chosen to wait. But they're starting to feel left out and worried about losing their friends.

Chairperson	Scribe	Summariser



Individual Liberty



Be yourself, be anything. We are the future.

As we have explored, Individual liberty means people are free to make choices for themselves, **as long as they're not breaking the law and they're thinking about safety and others.**





Individual Liberty



Individual Liberty means...

- People can make different choices
- Parents can parent in different ways
- Children can ask — adults decide
- No one is forced



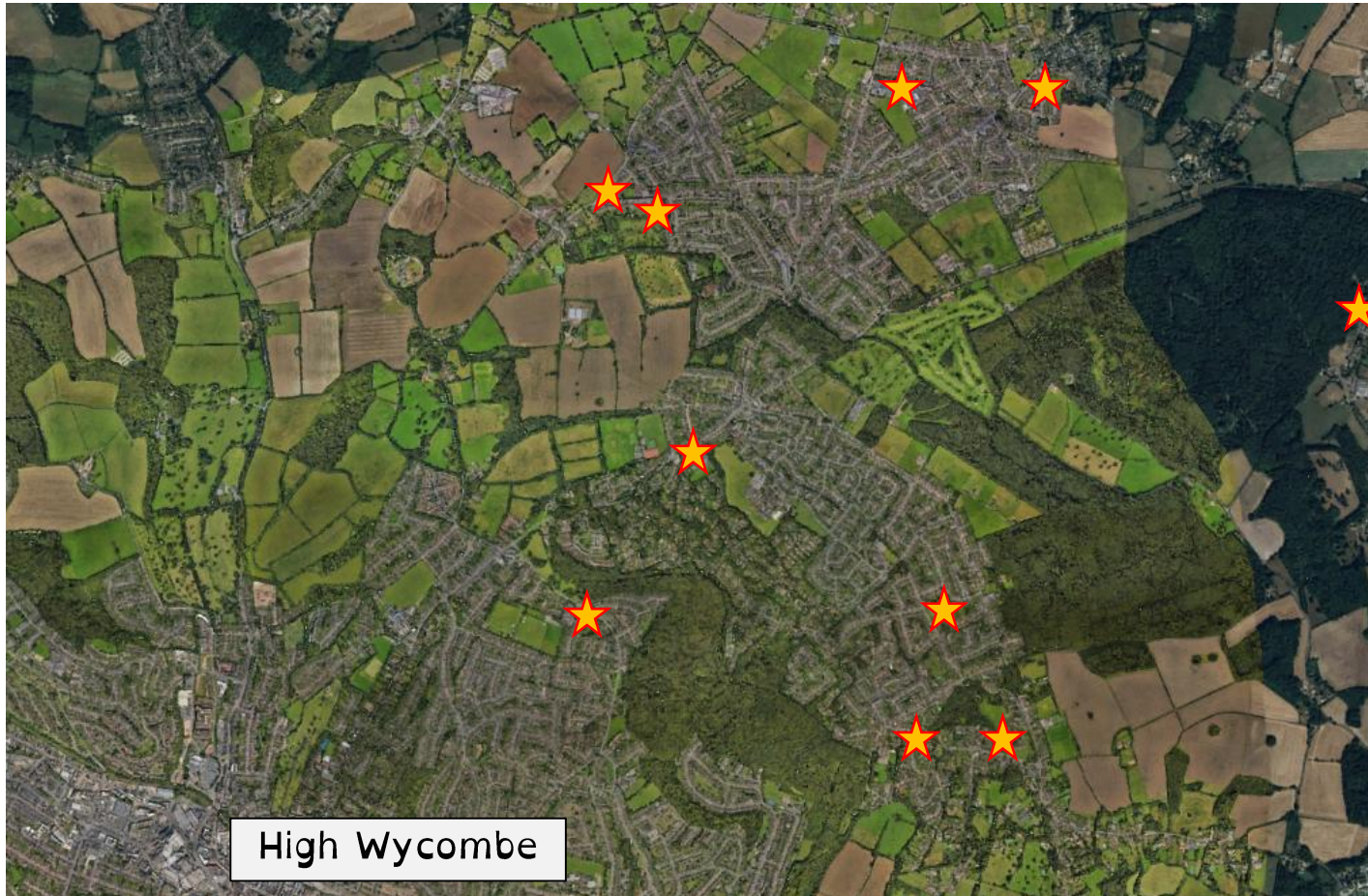


Guiding Digital Childhoods

(as part of the *Chiltern Area Partnership*)



- 11 local North Wycombe schools; 2,000+ pupils



- We wanted to find out what your parents thought...



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What families said (local schools):

- Most parents are worried about your sleep
- Many worry about your friendships and pressure
- Many worry about you feeling left out
- Many said: *'This is hard to decide on our own'*




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- No smart phones in school
- Delay till Year 9
- Delay social media till 16
- Mental health and social skills


Headline Findings


 **Support a phone-free school day**
88% of parents support a phone-free school policy.

 **Support delaying smartphones until Year 9**
77% of parents agree with the principle 'No smartphones before Year 9'.

 **Support delaying social media until 16**
86% of parents agree with the principle 'No social media before 16'.

 **Would join a voluntary register**
67% of parents said a collective register would help them delay smartphone use.

 **Concerned about mental health**
94% of parents are concerned about the effect of smartphones on their child's mental health.

 **Concerned about social skills**
87% of parents are concerned about the impact on friendships and face-to-face interaction.

Parent Voice

*"It's not about banning — it's about giving them more years to just be kids."
"The peer pressure is constant; we need the whole school to commit, not just us."
"A simple, basic phone for safety feels fair and realistic."*

Results from 737 parents across Chiltern Area Partnership schools, Autumn 2024



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What families DIDN'T say:

- This is not about blaming children.
- It's not about saying phones are 'bad'.
- And it's not about telling every family what to do – **individual liberty!**



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What's Happening This Week:

- This week, hundreds of CAP parents are coming to a workshop.
- They're not being told what to do.
- They're listening, asking questions, and thinking.
- Some may decide to delay phones/social media. Some may not. That's **individual liberty**.



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- Some parents may choose to join a voluntary register.
- That just means: *'We're trying this for now.'*

Our Four Family Principles (CAP-wide)

-  Delay smartphones to at least Year 9
 -  Delay social media to at least 16
 -  Phone-free school day
-  More independence, free play and real-world responsibility.



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You Have an Important Role, too:

- You can support your parents by being patient — even if you don't agree.
- You can help by not comparing whose family does what.
- And you can be kind to friends whose families make different choices.



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- Individual liberty means freedom — with care.
- Adults are using their liberty to try to protect childhood.
- Different choices. Same respect.

WORKING TOGETHER
ACROSS LOCAL SCHOOLS
TO SUPPORT CONFIDENT,
CONNECTED FAMILIES
IN A DIGITAL CHILDHOOD

CHILTERN AREA PARTNERSHIP
HIGH WYCOMBE

ENDORSED BY
**SMARTPHONE
FREE CHILDHOOD**
OFFICIAL PARTNERS SUPPORTING
PARENT-TO-PARENT CONFIDENCE