**Should mobile phones be banned for children?**

Mobile phones are very common in our daily lives, you see them everywhere! They were made for phoning people. But now people mostly use their phone to go on social media such as Snapchat or WhatsApp. Children often get phones when they are starting secondary school or at the end of P7. But some people even get their phones before that! I will be giving you the pros and cons for mobile phones for children. At the end, I will look at the pros and cons and decide if mobile phones should or should not be banned.

**Pros**

My first pro is that you can use mobile phones to communicate. This is really good because this means you can talk to people all over the world using your mobile phone. Especially, if you can’t talk to the person in real life. For example, you can talk to friends or family who live far away in another country, or even just in another town or city. This is a good way to keep in contact with relatives. Mobile phones are also good for children because they can tell their parents if they will be late, or if they miss the school bus. You can do this by calling them or texting them through social media.



My second pro is that mobile phones are a great way of entertainment. You can play different types of games like golf games, football games or even shooter games. You can also play big games such as Minecraft. You don’t just have to play games for entertainment you can watch TV. For example, you can be waiting on the Doctor and there is nothing to do. You can go on your phone and watch Netflix or play a game.

My last pro is that on your phone you can look at the news to see what is happening around the world. The news could tell you about something bad or good that has happened. For example, you could check how many deaths there have been due to coronavirus. The News does not just tell you if something bad or good has happened, it can tell you about sports and politics. For example, the latest vote scores or the scores of a football match. My extra pros are that you can get bullied for not having a phone, you can use the internet to help you with school work and you can download apps to help with your fitness. Mobile phones can also be used as a camera or calculator and you can download an app for directions.

**Cons**

Now I will tell you some cons about having a phone.

My first con is bullying. A lot of people get bullied over the internet. So, if you have social media such as Snapchat or Instagram you can be very easily bullied. This form of bullying is called cyberbullying. People cyberbully because they can’t see faces and they act differently on the internet. Do you act differently when you are on the internet? Some bullies do it online because they can be scared to say it in person. Sometimes in the news there can be reports of bullying. This really shows that bullying can be terrible. Some people even kill themselves!



For my second con I will be talking about phones being very distracting. This one happens in my house when my Mum is in on her phone texting. For an example, if you are talking to someone and they go on their phone they usually ignore everything you are talking about. This is really frustrating and annoying. Mobile phones can distract people when driving and may lead to fatal accidents.



For my third con I will be talking about how expensive phones can be. They are usually £100 to £1,000. This is really expensive and some people may not be able to afford a phone. For my extra con you can’t take back anything you put on the internet.

**Conclusion**

In conclusion I have looked at the pros and the cons to see if mobile phones should or should not be banned for children. Over all, based on my research, I think they should not be banned because you can contact people if something bad happened. What do you think, should phones be banned for children?