The benefits of owning a mobile phone far outweigh the disadvantages

A study in 2010 shows that 79% of 10-14 year olds have phones but it is almost certain that the percentage is higher nowadays. In a more recent study in 2017 it shows that the average age for a child to get a phone is 10.3. This is a lot of people who are taking their phones everywhere and there has been an ongoing discussion a what age someone should be allowed a phone and whether kids should be allowed them in school.

On one hand a study reveals that the use of technology as a bargaining chip can actually impact the trust between you and your child. This gives the impact that they fell like you trust them and that they trust you which for some kids can give a bigger impact in the long term as they feel you really believe in them and have showed them this rather than just telling them. It can also be used to modify behaviour as they feel like they have to be more responsible as they have been given a phone which means they will then behave more mature and responsible which is a good thing for themselves and also for his or her’s parents as they get to do what they want or just get on their other their work.

On the other hand By the age of 12, 50% of children have social media’s such as Instagram and face book the age restriction is older than their age which is mostly 13. They are also downloading apps such as snapchat and tik tok. In these apps there are older kids and adults that use these apps and they may post inappropriate things on their accounts that the children might see. They can also give away personnel information with out even knowing it such as taking tik toks in their uniform so then someone then knows between Monday and Friday at 9am to 3pm every week where you are which is a bit creepy. This is not good for the children and they should not have apps like these without settings put on them. Kids should also have a workshop come into them when they are in like P7 for internet safety as we had one and it really makes you think about yourself and what you could do to make yourself more protected and how to keep yourself safe online.

Despite this phones can keep you safe as a quick text or phone call lets you know that your child is safe at a friend’s house, the library, or at an after-school activity.Some smartphones include security apps that allow you to see your children’s whereabouts on a local map and alert them in case of an emergency . For example, if you are scheduled to pick up your daughter at her school at 3:30 and your younger child comes down with the flu at her school at 3:00, you can send an alert that will let everyone in your group know. This allows you to make alternate plans with a minimum of stress and that your child has a ride home and everyone is ok and safe even though their has been a hiccup in the plans. Also if you are walking home you can stay connected with your parents and if your activity runs over you can call them so they go to get worried where as if you didn’t have a phone and you were home thirty minutes to a hour late they would be worried sick.

 However, schools point out that carrying a mobile phone could, in itself, make the child more vulnerable to theft or mugging, both on the street and even in the playground. Police figures confirm that a high proportion of crimes committed against young people, involve the thefts of mobile phones. For example if a child is walking home alone they are more likely to get robbed since they have something worth £400 in their pocket. In addition if a kid is paying no attention what so ever to what happening in the world around them, as they are stuck on their phone with AirPods on which are an extra £150 it will be easier for someone to sneak up behind them and steal their belongings.

Alternatively studies have shown that over 55% of kids have made friends online and over 20% have made more than five this implies that when kids are inside they can still play with friends and talk to them. Also during times like these if kids are age have phones they can call and text each other. Kids have also been face timing each other a lot since they can play games with each other while seeing them. I also know from experience that even though people are missing out on birthday parties the can still have them on zoom while their parents are doing work meetings on zoom. In addition to this if they have a phone they can call face time and text on WhatsApp whereas the people who don’t have phones can only do the zoom calls with us and that’s only like once every one to two weeks. This is also depressing because it means that they don’t get to see their best friends were as if COVID 19 wasn’t around they would of seen them almost every day.

In contrast to this using phones before bed delays your body’s internal clock, suppresses the release of the sleep-inducing hormone melatonin, and makes it more difficult to fall asleep. This is largely due to the short-wavelength, artificial blue light that’s emitted by these devices. The more electronic devices that a person uses in the evening, the harder it is to fall asleep or stay asleep. This means that kid’s who go on their phones right before bed overnight will make it harder to fall asleep and even if you just read for half a hour before bed you could have a much better sleep since most kids don’t do this it makes another argument against kids getting phones. Not to mention the cost of them as most of them are really expensive but not much can be done about this.

In conclusion these are the points why kids should have phones and you can choose yourself although keep in mind most people have chosen to get their kids phones and in my opinion you should get them one as most arguments against can be solved. The first argument is about social media. Now you can do a few things about this. The first thing you can do is not let them have the apps. The second thing you can do is with tik tok and other apps like Instagram you can make their accounts private so only their friends can see their account. Finally you can check their accounts and the social media’s they have to make sure it’s ok. The second argument is about theft. Theft is a thing that we can not stop but you could only let your child walk home if you think they are responsible. You could also only let your child walk on certain streets as some streets out on the open people wouldn’t be able to steal anything from anyone and if they did someone would of probable seen them and they could report them to the police. The third argument is pretty simple do not let them have their phones late at night. At the end I mentioned about money, if you just simply find a family member who is getting a new phone you can use your old one and put a new sim in it. This is why I think kids should be allowed phones.