

# **PE2106/H: Prohibit mobile phone use in Scottish schools**

## **Association of Heads and Deputes in Scotland (AHDS) written submission, 12 December 2024**

The petition was discussed at our National Executive Committee on 3 October where it was agreed that AHDS would not support the petition.

AHDS is a member of the Scottish Government group, SAGRABIS (Scottish Advisory Group on Relationships and Behaviour in Schools), which thoroughly examined this issue before delivering the current guidance which enables schools to ban mobile phones if that is considered necessary due to local circumstances. This position recognised that one role for schools is to encourage respectful use of mobile phones. In addition, some schools have 'bring your own device' approaches which mean that mobile phones were used to support learning in some settings. Further, some pupils use phones to support the technology associated with medical conditions such as monitoring related to diabetes medication. For all these reasons, and the need to allow schools to respond to local circumstances, AHDS does not support the petition.