

Scoil Mhuire agus Iosaf Collooney



Mobile Phone and Electronic Devices Policy

Introductory Statement:

This policy was drawn up in response to technological advances, which have seen a significant increase in hand held electronic 'gadgets' amongst the school population over recent years.

Rationale:

- iPods, mobile phones, Game Boys, PSP's, MP3's etc. are intrusive and distracting in a school environment
- Strategies must be put in place to reduce the intrusiveness of unauthorised technology in a school situation
- Some electronic devices may be harmful due to frequent use
- Mobile phones or devices may be used to conduct bullying campaigns

Relationship to School Ethos:

The use of mobile phones and other electronic devices contravenes the provision of a safe and secure school environment and is not conducive to learning - a provision which is central to the mission statement and ethos of Scoil Mhuire Agus Iosaf

Aims:

- To ensure a "technology appropriate" school environment
- To lessen intrusions on and distractions to children's learning

Internal School Procedures:

The following are the guidelines for mobile phone/electronic devices usage in the school;

- Children are not allowed to use of mobile phones/electronic devices during school hours
- Pupils are not allowed to bring mobile phones or electronic devices into school. In exceptional circumstances, such as when out of school activities and after school games are scheduled, school tours etc., children may be allowed carry a phone as parents may need to be contacted
- Children who need to contact home during school hours may do so through the school secretary using the school landline phone
- All electronic gadgets are banned, even during after school activities

- Any pupil who brings a mobile phone or electronic devices to school risks having it confiscated and not returned until their parent collects it from the school. The school will not accept responsibility for loss or damage of any device brought to school
- Staff have access to the school landline if urgent calls need to be made to parents
- Classroom supervision is usually organised if a class teacher has to contact other professionals or outside agencies in relation to a particular child
- Staff personal calls are normally confined to break times
- Staff are permitted mobile phone usage only in cases of emergency

Roles and Responsibilities:

All staff share in the co-ordination and implementation of this policy.

Evaluation:

This policy is monitored on an ongoing basis and amendments added as new technology comes on stream.

Implementation:

This policy has been in place since the 10th of April 2018.

Ratification:

This policy was updated and ratified by the Board of Management on _January 29th 2019_. It will be reviewed in 2021.

Signed

Chairperson

Principal