

St.Patrick's P.S

Mobile Phone and Electronic Games 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:

- Mobile phones, etc. can be intrusive and distracting in a school environment
- Strategies should 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 can be used to conduct bullying campaigns

Relationship to School Ethos:

The use of mobile phones and other electronic games can contravene 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 St. Patrick's P.S.

Aims:

- To lessen intrusions on and distractions to children's learning
- To ensure no improper usage of mobile phones or electronic equipment

Internal School Procedures:

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

- Children are not allowed to use of mobile phones/electronic games during school hours
- Pupils are not allowed to bring mobile phones or electronic games into school.
- In exceptional circumstances where parents may need to be contacted, a phone must be accompanied by a note from a parent and dropped into the office first thing in the morning and collected in the evening after school.
- 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 game to school risks having it confiscated and not returned until a parent calls to collect it.
- As the school does not allow children to bring in mobile phones it takes no responsibility for any damage to phones that are brought into school.
- Staff have access to the school landline if urgent calls need to be made to parents

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 will possibly be added as new technology comes on stream.