

Mobile Phone Policy

Introductory Statement:

This policy was drawn up in response to the increasing problems posed by the unwarranted presence of mobile phones on school grounds.

Rationale:

- Mobile phones are intrusive and distracting in a school environment
- A policy must be put in place to reduce the intrusiveness of mobile phones in a school situation
- Mobile phones may be used to conduct bullying campaigns

Relationship to School Ethos:

The use of mobile phones contravenes the provision of a safe and secure school environment and is not conducive to learning - a provision which is central to the ethos of St Brigid's School.

Aims:

- To lessen intrusions on and distractions to children's learning.
- To lessen the possibility of cyber bullying and unauthorised use of a camera.

Internal School Procedures:

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

- Pupils are **not** allowed to bring mobile phones into school.
- The school mobile number is used for out-of-school activities as parents may need to contact school personnel or children may need to contact a parent
- Children who need to contact home during school hours may do so through the school secretary using the school landline phone
- Any pupil who brings a mobile phone to school risks having it confiscated and not returned until parent/guardian collects it.
- Staff have access to the school landline if urgent calls need to be made to parents
- Staff use personal phones only for curricular-related activities in class e.g. timer/stopwatch
- Personal use of staff phones is restricted to break times.
- Special Needs Assistants may use their phones only to relay messages to parents of children who have ongoing medical needs.

Roles and Responsibilities:

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

Evaluation:

This policy is monitored on an ongoing basis.

Ratification and Review

This policy was ratified by the Board of Management on _____ and is implemented forthwith.

Signed: _____

Chairperson, Board of Management

Date _____

Next Review : September / October 2019

Communication

This policy is available on the school's website. It is also available on request from the Principal / Secretary.