

Mobile Phone and Electronic Games Policy

Coosan National School

Introductory Statement:

This policy was drawn up in response to technological advances, which have seen a significant increase in handheld 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 may be used to conduct bullying campaigns

Relationship to School Ethos:

The use of mobile phones and other electronic games 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 Coosan National School.

Aims:

- To ensure that there is no unauthorised use of technology in our school environment
- To lessen intrusions on and distractions to children's learning

Internal School Procedures:

The following are the rules for mobile phone/electronic games usage in the school:

- Children's' mobile phones (on the school grounds) must be switched off at all times
- Electronic games are not allowed in school at anytime.
- SmartWatches may be worn to track steps and tell time only. Any device that is found to be able to make calls /receive calls / take photographs or voice record will be confiscated immediately.
- In exceptional circumstances, such as when out of school activities and after school games are scheduled, school tours etc., children may be allowed to bring a phone as parents may need to be contacted. If travelling by bus, phones will be taken by class teacher on entering the bus and returned when the class has returned to school.
- Children who need to contact home during school hours may do so through the school secretary using the school landline phone
- All other 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 collected from the principal by parent/guardian.
- Staff have access to the school landline if urgent calls need to be made to parents/guardians

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 was updated by the Staff on

29/10/2020

This Policy was ratified by the BOM on

This Policy was ratified by the Parents Association on