

Mobile Phone and Electronic Games Policy

Introductory Statement:

This policy was drawn up in response to technological advances amongst the school population over recent years. It was reviewed in March 2022 in accordance with the Child Safeguarding review and the AUP.

Rationale:

- Mobile phones are intrusive and distracting in a school environment.
- Strategies must be put in place to reduce the intrusiveness of unauthorised technology in a school setting.
- 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 classroom learning –a provision which is central to the mission statement and ethos of the Monastery School.

Aims:

- To lessen intrusions on and distractions to children's learning.
- To remove opportunities for bullying.
- To support a safe and secure school environment.

Internal School Procedures:

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

- Pupils are not allowed to bring mobile phones in school.
- Children who need to contact home during school hours may do so through the school secretary using the school landline.
- Pupils are not allowed to bring electronic games to school.
- Smart Watches with games/cameras are not permitted in school.
- On grounds of health and safety all staff members and visitors should ensure that mobile phones are either "switched off" or in "silent mode" during school hours while within school precincts.
- The Board of Management requests the School Principal to display signs to this effect for the benefit of visitors to the school.

- Staff have access to the school landline / E-Fone app if calls need to be made to parents or guardians.
- Classroom supervision is usually organised between class teachers if a teacher has to make a call on behalf of a child.

Roles and Responsibilities:

- It is the responsibility of all school staff to share in the co-ordination and implementation of this policy.

Breaches of this Policy:

- Breaches of this Policy will be dealt with in accordance with the Monastery School Code of Behaviour

Evaluation:

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

Implementation:

- This policy will be implemented as of April 2022.

Ratification:


- This policy was ratified by the Board of Management on 7th April 2022

Review:

- This policy will be reviewed in June 2025
- This policy was ratified by the Board of Management

• on 7th April 2022

• It will be reviewed on June 2024

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Chairperson of the Board of Management

07/04/2022
Date