

MOBILE PHONES
ACCEPTABLE USE POLICY

Relationship to School Ethos

The unsupervised use of mobile phones contravenes the provision of a safe and secure school environment conducive to learning, a provision which is central to the mission statement and ethos of Scoil Choca Naofa.

Introductory Statement

This policy was drawn up in response to a significant increase in mobile phone usage amongst the school population over recent years.

Aim

- To lessen intrusions on and distractions to children's learning
- To provide for the safety and well-being of all students.

Internal School Procedures

Where a pupil brings a mobile phone to school, the phone must be kept out of sight and switched off during the school day and may not be used, for **any** purpose, on school premises, grounds or during off-site school activities. (In exceptional circumstances such as after school games, teacher may permit phone use to contact parent.)

Mobile phones **should not** be brought on school tours (specify on tour letter).

The school accepts no responsibility for replacing lost, stolen or damaged mobile phones: the safety and security of mobile phones is wholly a matter for pupils/parents.

Children who need to contact home during school hours may do so (at the discretion of the class teacher) through the school secretary using the school landline phone.

Technology has increased the pace of communication and brought benefits worldwide; but their popularity provides increasing opportunities for misuse through 'cyberbullying'. We advise our pupils that they should not respond to abusive emails, text messages or phone calls and should ALWAYS report such to an adult. It should be noted that it is a criminal offence to use a mobile phone to menace, harass or offend another person.

Pupils who ignore this policy and whose mobile phone is seen or heard on school premises/grounds without permission will face the following disciplinary actions:

Phone will be confiscated for the first instance of non-compliance; it will be returned to pupil before close of school with a note to parent/guardian that subsequent incidences will result in the confiscation of the phone for 3 school days.

Ratified by Board of Management on _____.

Signed: _____
Chairperson, Board of Management

Electronic Games

Relationship to School Ethos

The use of electronic games, iPods, PSPs, MP3s and GameBoys contravenes the provision of a safe and secure school environment conducive to learning, a provision which is central to the mission statement and ethos of Scoil Choca Naofa.

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.

Aim

- To lessen intrusions on and distractions to children's learning
- To provide for the safety and well-being of all students.

Internal School Procedures

The following are the guidelines for electronic games usage in the school:

Children are not allowed the use of electronic games during school hours, on school premises/grounds or during off-site activities unless with the permission of Teacher (on day of holidays, Games Day, etc.)

Pupils who ignore this policy will face the following disciplinary actions:

Gadget will be confiscated for the first instance of non-compliance for 3 school days;

Further infringements will result in confiscation of gadget for 1 week.

Ratified by Board of Management on _____.

Signed: _____ . DATE: Feb 2013

LETTERS TO PARENTS (1):

Dear Parent,

Your daughter, _____, failed to comply with our Mobile Phone Policy on _____ (date). This resulted in her phone being confiscated for the day. Future infractions however will result in her phone being confiscated for 3 school days.

Yours sincerely

Breda Fay (Príomhoide)

LETTERS TO PARENTS (2):

Dear Parent,

Your daughter, _____, previously failed to comply with our Mobile Phone Policy which resulted in her phone being confiscated for a day. This is the second incidence of non-compliance, the sanction for which is confiscation of phone for 3 days: from _____ to _____.

Yours sincerely

Breda Fay (Príomhoide)

LETTERS OF ACKNOWLEDGEMENT FROM PARENTS :

I support the Policy of Scoil Choca Naofa for the use of Mobile Phones. I have read and discussed this letter with _____.

SIGNED: _____ (Parent/Guardian)

DATE: _____

ELECTRONIC DEVICES

Relationship to School Ethos

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Further infringements will result in confiscation of gadget for 1 week.

Ratified by Board of Management on _____.

Signed: _____ . Date: FEBRUARY 2013

Chairperson, Board of Management