

Scoil Phadraig Naofa

The Course,

Tullow,

Co. Carlow.

Roll No. 16080N



Reviewed Nov 2009

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.

- iPods, mobile phones, Games 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 or radiation.
- 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 conducive to learning, a provision which is central to the mission statement and ethos of Scoil Phadraig Naofa.

Aims:

- To ensure an "intrusive technology free" school environment.
- To lessen intrusions and distractions to children's learning.

Internal School Procedures.

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

1. Children are not allowed the use of mobile phone/electronic devices during school hours.
2. Pupils are not allowed bring mobile phones or games into school. In exceptional circumstances such as when out of school activities and after school games are scheduled, school tours etc., children may be allowed carry a phone as parents may need to be contacted.
3. Children who need to contact home during school hours may do so through the school secretary using the school landline phone.
4. All electronic gadgets are banned, even during after -school activities.
5. Any pupil who brings a mobile phone or electronic game to school risks having it confiscated and not returned until the school day is over.
6. Staff have access to the school landline if urgent calls need to be made to parents.
7. Classroom supervision is usually organised if a class teacher has to contact other professionals or outside agencies in relation to a particular child.
8. Staff personal calls are normally confined to break times.
9. Staff are permitted mobile phones in case of emergency.

Scoil Phadraig Naofa

The Course,

Tullow,

Co. Carlow.

Roll No. 16080N



Reviewed Nov 2009

10. Pupils who bring mobile phones to school must have them turned off and given to the school secretary at the start of school. They must be collected at 3.00pm.

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 has been in place since September 2009.