



USE BY STUDENTS OF MOBILE PHONES AT SCHOOL POLICY

Rationale behind this policy:

- The Department of Education and Training does not hold insurance for personal property brought to schools. Consequently neither the school nor DE&T will pay for any loss or damage to such property.
- Mobile phones are, as a general rule, unnecessary and can be disruptive to the routine of the school.
- Mobile phones give rise to the possibility of inappropriate contact being made by persons with school students or vice-versa.
- Where a parent/guardian needs to make urgent contact with their child, this may be done through the general office.

Policy

- In general, students may not bring mobile phones to school.
- Where there is a legitimate reason for bringing a mobile phone to school, for example where contact must be made with a parent after school, they are to be left at the general office and collected at the end of the school day.
- The exception to this policy is during school camps and excursions, where students are informed in advance. In such cases:

The teacher in charge may insist upon certain rules in relation to their use.

Mobile phones must be used with courtesy, respect and consideration for others.

In-phone cameras must not be used anywhere a normal camera would be considered inappropriate (e.g. in change rooms or toilets) and may not be used to photograph any person without their consent.

- Action will be taken under the school's bullying and harassment policy against any student who uses a mobile phone to threaten or harass another student.
- Mobile phones brought to school in contravention of this policy will be confiscated and must be collected by student's parent/guardian.
- Students repeatedly in breach of this policy will be dealt with under the student code of conduct.

Evaluation:

This policy will be reviewed as part of the school's three year review cycle.

This policy was last ratified by School Council on:

February 2010