

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, Game Boys, PSPs, MP3s etc. are intrusive and distracting in a school environment. Strategies must be put in place to prevent 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.

Aim:

To prevent intrusions on and distractions to children's learning.

Internal School Procedures:

The following are the guidelines for mobile phone/electronic games usage in Gortskehy NS:

- Pupils are not allowed to bring mobile phones or electronic games into school.
- The Board of Management may allow mobile phones in exceptional circumstances.
- Children are not allowed the use of mobile phones/electronic games during school hours.
- Children who need to contact home during school hours may do so using the school landline phone. All electronic gadgets are banned.
- Any pupil who brings a mobile phone or electronic game to school risks having it confiscated until the school day is over.
- In exceptional circumstances & under supervision, with the Principals approval, pupil's may be permitted to bring mobile phones on school trips
- Staff have access to the school landline if urgent calls need to be made to parents.
- Classroom supervision is organised if a class teacher has to contact other professionals or outside agencies in relation to a particular child.
- Staff personal calls are normally confined to break times.

Roles and Responsibilities:

The staff and parents 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 Data:

This policy is effective from April 2018

Signed: _____
(Chairperson of Board of Management)

Signed: _____
(Principal)

Date: _____

Date: _____

Date of next review: _____