

*S.N. Mhíchíl Naofa,
11, Sr. Ó'Bearáin,
Luimneach.
V94 A0K7
Uimh. Rolla 12834 S*



*St. Michael's N.S.,
11, Barrington St.,
Limerick.
V94 A0K7
Tel/Fax 061 - 31 59 27*

Email: info@smnslimerick.ie

Website: www.smnslimerick.ie

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 and all portable gaming devices 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
- 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 and is not conducive to learning - a provision which is central to the mission statement and ethos of Saint Michael's National School.

Aims:

- To minimise risk of bullying and cyber bullying
- To lessen intrusions on and distractions to children's learning

Internal School Procedures:

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

- Children are not allowed to use of mobile phones/electronic games during school hours
- Pupils are not allowed to bring mobile phones or electronic games into school. In exceptional circumstances, parents may apply to the Board for special permission to bring a phone to school. In this case the phone will be powered off during the school day and will be handed to the teacher on arrival. It is the pupil's responsibility to collect the phone at 2.20pm. The school do not take any responsibility for loss or damage to any mobile phone brought into school.
- Children who need to contact home during school hours may do so through the school secretary using the school landline phone
- All electronic gadgets are banned, even during after school activities
- 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
- Staff have access to the school landline if urgent calls need to be made to parents
- Classroom supervision is usually 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
- Staff are permitted mobile phone usage only in cases of emergency

Roles and Responsibilities:

All staff, parents and pupils 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 26th March 2019.

Signed: *The Very Rev'd Niall J. Sloane*

Chairperson