



DERRYQUAY
NATIONAL SCHOOL

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, 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
- 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 Derryquay National School.

Aims:

- To lessen intrusions on and distractions to children's learning
- To prevent cyberbullying
- To avoid the distress caused by the loss or damage of valuable items

Internal School Procedures:

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

- Children are not allowed to use mobile phones/electronic games during school hours
- Pupils are not allowed to bring mobile phones or electronic devices into school.
- Pupils are not allowed to bring mobile phones or any devices capable of connecting to the internet to any school related activities.
- In exceptional circumstances, where parents may need to be contacted, the Principal may give permission to bring phones on a school trip.
- Children who need to contact home during school hours may do so using the school landline phone
- All electronic games are banned during school hours.
- Any pupil who brings a mobile phone or electronic device to school risks having it confiscated and not returned until the school day is over
- Staff personal calls are normally confined to break times



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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 will be implemented from June 2017

Review:

This policy was amended in May 2017 and ratified by the Board of Management on the 9th of June 2017. It will be reviewed in 2020 or earlier if necessary.

Signed:

Príomhoide

Cathaoirleach an Bhoird Bainistíochta