

# Muire na Dea Chomhairle N.S

## Mobile/Smart Phone and Electronic Devices Policy

### **Introductory Statement:**

This policy was drawn up in response to technological advances, which have seen a significant increase in hand held electronic devices amongst the school population over recent years. Children are not permitted to bring the following devices in to the school

- Mobile/Smart phones
- iPads/Tablets
- Gaming Devices
- Smart watches which have a camera or video/audio recorder  
(This list is not exhaustive)

**N.B** Children granted assistive technology through the DES may be permitted to bring the items above to/from school with the schools prior permission.

### **Rationale:**

- The electronic devices listed above 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 and other electronic devices may be used to conduct bullying campaigns or pose risk in relation to child safeguarding

### **Relationship to School Ethos:**

The use of mobile phones and other electronic devices prohibited in the school 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 Muire na Dea Chomhairle N.S.

### **Aims:**

- To ensure an acceptable and appropriate use of technology in the school environment
- 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 devices during school hours
- Pupils are not allowed to bring mobile phones or electronic devices 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
- Children are not allowed to bring electronic devices to school which can be used to take photographs or audio/video recordings

- Children who need to contact home during school hours may do so through the school secretary using the school landline phone
- All electronic devices are banned, even during after school activities
- 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 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 staffs 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.

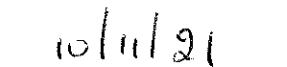
### **Implementation:**

This policy has been in place since November 11<sup>th</sup> 2021.

### **Ratification**

This policy was ratified by the B.o.M of Muire na Dea Chomhairle N.S on the 10<sup>th</sup> November 2021.

  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 Joan Connolly (Chairperson)

  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 Date