



ST. LOUIS
COMMUNITY SCHOOL

Mobile Phone Policy

In formulating this policy the Board of Management aims to provide students with reasonable communication facilities appropriate to a modern school environment, conducive to effective teaching and learning, and to secure a safe, nurturing environment where the personal dignity and rights of all the members of the school community are preserved.

This policy should be read, by students and staff, in conjunction with the school's Digital Citizenship Policy, the Anti-Bullying Policy, The Code of Positive Behaviour and other related school policies.

Students are permitted to bring mobile phones to school provided that the following conditions are observed;

- a) Mobile phone use must comply with the provisions of the school's Digital Citizenship Policy in which all students and staff sign a pledge to signal their commitment to the use of mobile phones and other devices in the a responsible and appropriate manner.
- b) Where a student brings a mobile phone to school, the phone must be switched off and may not be used for any purpose, other than educational, and its use must be directed by a teacher.
- c) Unless permission is granted by a teacher, no photographs or recordings can be taken, video or audio, using mobile phones on the school premises or grounds. Using phones in such a way can seriously infringe upon people's rights.
- d) Parents/guardians are asked not to arrange to contact students by mobile phone at any time during the school day. Contact with the school may be made through the office and students are directed to use the office phone in emergencies.
- e) The school accepts no responsibility for replacing lost, stolen or damaged mobile phones. (except in the case where the phone has been confiscated). The safety and security of mobile phones is wholly a matter for students/parents/guardians.

Sanctions

- a) Students found in contravention of will result in the phone and SIM card therein being held in the school until the next Friday afternoon or the start of a holiday period, whichever is sooner. Parents/guardians will be notified of any such confiscation and will be expected to collect the phone. Failure to hand over a mobile phone is a serious breach of the school's Code of Positive Behaviour.
- b) Incidents where students use mobile phones to bully other students or send offensive messages or calls, while engaged in school activities, will be investigated under the Anti- Bullying policy. It should be noted that it is a criminal offence to use a mobile phone to menace, harass or offend another person. As such, the school may consider it appropriate to involve the Gardaí in such incidents.

Signed Peter G. O'Connell
(Chairperson, Board of Management)

Date 4th March 2021

Signed Regina Adams
(Principal)

Date 4/3/2021

Date of next review March 2022.