

# **SCOIL NAOMH IOSAF (SNI)**

**Baltinglass, Co. Wicklow**

**Roll No: 20039P**



## **Mobile Phone Policy**

## Introduction:

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.

## Rational:

The purpose of this policy is to ensure that:

- Teachers and SNAs have clear well-defined guidelines on best practice.
- There is consistency across the school in relation to the use of mobile phones.
- Optimum learning experiences are provided for all children.
- Parents have clarity on the mobile phone policy of the school

## Aims: Our Mobile Phones Policy aims to:

- To ensure a "technology free" school environment.
- To lesson intrusion on and distraction to children's learning.
- To create a safe learning environment for all children and prevent exposure to cyberbullying.

## Internal school procedures:

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

- Children are not permitted to use mobile phones/electronic games during school hours.
- Mobile phones/electronic games are not allowed to be brought into the school.
- In exceptional circumstances, parents and guardians may, in writing, request permission for the child to bring a mobile phone into the school. In this circumstance, the mobile phone must be left in either the school office or locked in the class teacher's drawer until needed. Pupils are not permitted to keep the mobile phone in their school bag.
- Children who need to contact home during the school hours may do so through the school landline in the school office.
- All electronic games and gadgets such as Nintendo switches, iPods, iPads, PSP's etc. are banned, including during golden time, after school activities and school trips.
- Any pupil who brings an electronic device such as a mobile phone or electronic game into the school risks having it confiscated. If a mobile phone or electronic device is confiscated, it will not be returned until a parent or guardian collects it from the principal's office.
- Staff personal calls are limited to break times and may only be taken during teaching time in urgent circumstances.

- Staff are not permitted to use mobile phones during teaching and learning hours.
- Scoil Naomh Iosaf cannot take any responsibility for loss, damage or theft of any device brought into the school.

### Technology Day

- Teachers of senior classes may have a technology day whereby children are permitted to bring a device to school. Parents will be informed by the class teacher on Aladdin if a class are having a technology day.
- Technology Day will be supervised and for a specific purpose.
- Pupils are not permitted to record/take photographs using their devices during Technology Day.
- At no stage are pupils allowed to post images/text from school and their classroom on any social media platform.

### The Role of the school staff:

All staff are in agreement of the implementation of this policy.

### The Role of the Parents/Guardians:

Parents and guardian are encouraged to;

- Ensure children are aware of the consequences should they bring in a mobile phone/electronic device without permission.
- Write a written request to the school granting the child permission to bring a mobile phone into the school given exceptional circumstances.

### Review:

This policy was reviewed and ratified by the Board of Management at their meeting on September 26<sup>th</sup> 2023. The policy will be reviewed again in June 2028 or as necessary.

Signed \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

*Chairperson, Board of Management*

Signed \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

*Principal/Secretary to the Board of Management*