



Mobile Phones/Smart Phone*Policy

*inclusive of ipods

Introductory Statement:

This policy was drawn up in response to new **Child Protection Procedures** and Child Safeguarding Risk Assessment as per **circular 0081/2017**.

Rationale:

- Mobile phones/smart phone 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 to members of the school community due to inappropriate use.

Relationship to School Ethos:

The use of mobile phones/smart phone 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 Boolavogue N.S.

Aims:

- To safeguard children who attend Boolavogue N.S.
- To lessen intrusions on and distractions to children's learning

Internal School Procedures:

The following are the guidelines for mobile phones/smart phone usage in the school;

- **Pupils are not allowed to bring mobile phones/smart phones into school.**
- Children are not allowed to use of mobile phones/smart phones during school hours
- **Children who need to contact home during school hours may do so through the school secretary using the school phone**
- All mobile phones/smart phones are banned, even during after school activities
- Any pupil who brings a mobile phones/smart phones to school will have it confiscated and not returned until a parent can collect the device from the school office.
- Any pupil who is found with a mobile phone in school/using a mobile phone during school will be dealt with in line with our schools code of behavior where an orange card will be immediately issued.
- **Staff have access to the school phone if urgent calls need to be made to parents.**

Roles and Responsibilities:

All members of the school community 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 September 2018 after ratification by the BOM in June 2018.