

Corpus Christi National School
Mobile Device Policy



Mobile Device Policy

- Pupils are not allowed to have mobile devices in school unless parents/guardians have written to the Principal requesting permission for their child to have a mobile device for an essential reason and outlining the reason. Otherwise phones will be confiscated if they are visible in school. Mobile devices include mobile phones, smartwatches and any device with internet access or the ability to take videos or photographs.
- Pupils are not permitted to wear smartwatches to school.
- Pupils are not permitted to use mobile phones/smart watches on the school premises, in the school grounds or at any school event (e.g. tour/field trip)
- Where a pupil has a mobile device and brings it to school, it must be turned off before coming onto the school grounds. Pupils are not allowed to have their devices on their person or in their coat pockets.
- If a child uses their device in school or leaves it switched on, it will be confiscated and only returned to the child's parents. Parents will be informed in advance of their child's departure from school if a device has been confiscated.
- Mobile devices may not be used to take videos, photographs or to record another pupil or a member of staff. Using a device in this way without someone's permission can seriously infringe on a person's rights. Misusing a device in this way will be deemed a serious breach of the Code of behaviour and may result in sanctions up to and including suspension.
- In accordance with child protection procedures, parents who accompany a class on an outing or a school tour are not permitted to take photographs or recordings using phones or other devices.
- Parents are asked not to attempt to contact their child by mobile device during the school day. Contact with the school may be made through the office at (01) 8379745. If a child feels unwell and needs to go home, the school will contact the parent/guardian using the contact numbers provided to the office.
- If a teacher or other staff member has a suspicion that there may be unsuitable material stored on a phone, it will be confiscated, and parents will be informed. If there is a suspicion that material on a device may provide evidence in relation to a crime, it will be handed over to Gardaí for further investigation. Parents will be informed in such circumstances.
- Pupils who use mobile phones to bully other pupils or send offensive messages/calls will face disciplinary action in accordance with the school's Code of Behaviour. It should be noted that it is a criminal offence to use a mobile device to menace, harass or offend another person.
- The school accepts no responsibility for replacing lost, stolen or damaged mobile phones/digital devices. The safety and security of any electronic device is wholly a matter for parents /guardians.

Communication, ratification and review of policy

A copy of this policy will be available on the school website. An electronic version will be available to staff members via Aladdin, the in-school administrative software. The Board of Management ratified this policy. It will be reviewed again in three years or sooner if necessary.

Niamh Greene

Principal

Date: _____

Felix McKenna

Chairperson of the Board of Management

