Coláiste Mhichíl

Mobile Phone/Smart Phone/Smart Watch/Non-Approved Technological Device Policy

Coláiste Mhichíl accepts that most young people have a Mobile Phone/Smart Phone/Smart Watch/ Non-Approved Technological Device. As a school we are very conscious of the adverse effects of mobile phone usage among young people, especially in relation to the growing use of social media platforms. Furthermore, we are conscious that mobile phone usage can have a negative impact on learning and teaching. To this end, parents are advised to encourage their sons to leave their mobile phones/devices at home.

In recognising the above, and in line with Circular 0045/2025 (*Restricting the use of and access to personal mobile phones by students during the school day*), the following policy aims to maintain a safe, nurturing environment where the personal dignity and rights of all members of the school community are preserved. This policy should be read in conjunction with the Code of Behaviour and the Anti-Bullying Policy of the school and Circular 0045/2025.

Where it is necessary that a mobile phone/device is brought to school by a student the following applies:

a) The mobile phone/device must be switched off during the school day. This includes the time from which the student enters the school grounds until the time which the student leaves the school grounds. This also extends to include any school trips or off campus activities.
b) Students found in contravention of (a) will have their mobile phone/device confiscated and stored in the school office. A text will then be sent to the parent/guardian of the student notifying them of the requirement for a parent/guardian to collect the mobile phone/device from the school office.
c) Mobile phones/devices may not be used for photographs or recordings.
d) Mobile phones/devices may not be used for any social media activity.
e) Earphones/ear pods linked to mobile phones/devices are not permitted in school.
f) Any student who wishes to make contact with home during the school day must arrange to do so through school reception. Also a Parent/Guardian who needs to make contact with their child or needs to collect their child during the school day should do so through the school office only. This ensures that the correct procedures for leaving school are observed.

On occasion a limited number of subjects may require the use of a device in practical or project work associated with State Examinations/CBAs. In this limited circumstance a teacher may ask students to bring a device to school for this sole purpose. Any such use of a device under those circumstance will be strictly under teacher supervision, and any device used most be powered off immediately after use.

Coláiste Mhichíl accepts no responsibility for replacing lost, stolen or damaged mobile phones/devices. The safety and security of mobile phones/devices is wholly a matter for students and parents/guardians.

Where mobile phones/devices are used in such a manner as to have a negative effect on the health, safety, or wellbeing of a member of the school community, sanctions including suspension and referral to the Board of Management (who may consider permanent exclusion) may be considered.

_____ Date: _____ Date:

Chairperson of BOM Principal