

St. Sinneach's N.S.

Colehill

Uimhir Rolla 14672 F

### Use of Electronic Mobile Devices Policy

This policy was formulated by the Principal and staff of St. Sinneach's National School, in May, 2021.

- As a general rule, the use of electronic mobile devices is not allowed by pupils within school hours and/or on school-related activities e.g school tours. There is no NEED for pupils to have phones at school; if the need arises, pupils will be allowed to use their teacher's phone.
- In extraordinary circumstances, should a pupil require a phone for after-school purposes, he/she must hand it over to the class teacher, at the very start of the school day, for safe-keeping. Pupils should mark their electronic device clearly with their name.
- In the event of pupils having phones at school for medical reasons, it is expected that he/she uses the phone responsibly and only for the specific purpose required.
- In the event of a mobile electronic device being confiscated, it will only be returned to the pupils' parents/guardians (no other party) after 3 school nights have passed.
- Recording of any member of the school community (pupils, teachers, staff, guest speakers, etc) is strictly forbidden.
- In the event of pupils communicating with staff members via social media, parents/guardians will be informed immediately and the matter will be dealt with appropriately.
- If a teacher has a suspicion that an electronic mobile device contains unsuitable material, pupils will be required to hand over the device to the teacher and parents/guardians will be asked to collect it from the school. Where there is a suspicion that the material on the electronic device may provide evidence relating to a criminal offence, the device will be handed over to the Gardaí for further investigation.
- The school accepts no responsibility for electronic mobile devices that are lost, damaged or stolen, either during school hours or while travelling to/from school. The security of electronic devices is solely the responsibility of pupils and their parents/guardians.

- Electronic devices which are found in the school or school grounds and whose owner cannot be located, should be handed to a teacher.
- All staff members keep their mobile phones muted 'on silent' during class time.

**Review**

This policy will be reviewed on an annual basis as part of our Anti-Bullying Policy Review.

**Ratification**

This policy was ratified by the Board of Management on 10<sup>th</sup> May, 2021.

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Fr. Charlie Healy

Chairperson, Board of Management