

Mobile Phone / Electronic Gadgets Policy

Introductory Statement:

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.

Rationale:

- iPods, mobile phones, Game Boys, PSP's, MP3's etc. 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 due to frequent use
- Mobile phones may be used to conduct bullying campaigns

Relationship to School Ethos:

The use of mobile phones and other electronic games 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 Ss. Peter and Paul's CBS.

Aims:

- To lessen intrusions on and distractions to children's learning
- To protect children/employees from unwarranted intrusion into their lives while in school.

Internal School Procedures:

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

- Children are not allowed to bring any mobile phones/electronic gadgets into school/school related activities.
- Any child in breach of this policy will be disciplined under the school's Code of Discipline.
- Parents will be required to call to the school office to collect mobile phones which have been confiscated.
- Children who need to contact home during school hours may do so through the school office using the school phone.
- Staff members have access to the school landline if urgent calls need to be made to parents.
- If parents need to urgently contact their children during school hours they can do so by contacting the school office.
- In regard to parents/guardians having to contact their children after school they must put in place arrangements that do not necessitate children bringing phones to school.
- Classroom supervision is usually organised if a class teacher has to contact other professionals or outside agencies in relation to a particular child.

