



CASTLETROY COLLEGE



Mobile Phone Policy

Castletroy College aims to maintain a safe and nurturing learning environment where the personal dignity and rights of all the members of the school community are preserved. Castletroy College's mobile phone usage policy accepts that the use of technology and electronic equipment including mobile phones is increasingly part of modern everyday life. The school is conscious of the negative impact that mobile phone use may have on wellbeing and learning within the school. We endeavour to help students to be present, attentive, and engaged. Students are not required to bring mobile phones to school. The school also teaches students on the impact of mobile phone use through various programmes in its curriculum.

In Castletroy College, we are conscious that technology in general, including mobile phones, continues to evolve. Our policies will therefore also continue to evolve accordingly. We will continue to consult and research the impact of mobile phone use on members of the School community.

The Department of Education and Youth requires that schools implement a policy to restrict the use of **and** access to personal mobile phones by students in all recognised schools for the duration of the school day. Therefore the use of mobile phones and other such devices is not permitted anywhere on school grounds at any time (including before and after school, break and lunchtimes, etc).

In Castletroy College we are aware that usage of a mobile phone for management of some medical conditions is necessary and this will be discussed and supported on an individual basis.

In order to assist the school in implementing the mobile phone usage policy, parents/guardians should not contact students directly while at school. In the event of an emergency, parents/guardians contact the school office at 061 330785. Students who feel unwell should alert the school office, who will contact home, as necessary.

The following regulations apply in relation to mobile phone usage in school:

- **The use of mobile phones and other such devices is not permitted anywhere on school grounds at any time** (including before and after school, break and lunchtimes, etc).
- When a student brings a mobile phone or other electronic device to school, it must be stored in their locker and switched off for the full duration of the school day. It may not be used for any purpose, on the school campus or off site during school activities (such as sport activities). This includes before school, during break and lunch times, after school, during study, etc.
- Students who ignore the school policy and use a mobile phone during the school day will have their mobile phone confiscated by teachers or SNA's and given to the Deputy Principal or Principal for the remainder of the school day. The phone will be returned only to a parent/guardian at the end of the school day.
- Phones are strictly forbidden at any time in the changing rooms & toilets even if the phone is switched off.

- Any parent/ guardian wishing to urgently contact their son/daughter may contact the school office to relay the message. Any student who needs to urgently contact their parents/ guardians may do so through the school office only.
- The school accepts no responsibility for replacing lost, stolen or damaged electronic devices including mobile phones. The safety and security of electronic devices is wholly a matter for students and/or parents/guardians.
- Please note that the use of smart watches for communication purposes is not permitted on the school campus and the procedures outlined above also apply to such devices when used for communication purposes.

This policy was adopted by the Board of Management on

13/05/24

Signed:

Dr Angela Canny

Chairperson of Board of Management

Signed:

Brian O Donoghue

Principal

Date of next review: September 2027