

12th September 2016

MOBILE PHONE POLICY

Dear Parents,

We all know how useful and addictive mobile phones can be - most of us can't remember how we survived without them - and they can be very useful for your children to have too, especially if their route home from school involves public transport or independent travel.

Within the classroom, however, mobile phones can be very disruptive - think how annoyed you get when a phone goes off in the cinema, and imagine that interrupting you as a teacher! In addition, many phones now have cameras and internet access, which raises issues surrounding child safety and protection. For these reasons, we have a policy for mobile phone usage in school.

Please read this policy carefully with your child. At the bottom of the policy is a slip which needs to be signed by you and your child and returned to school. Once received, your child will be able to bring their mobile phone to school.

Thank you for your support in this matter. We hope you feel the policy provides the right balance but please feel free to contact the school office if you wish to discuss this matter further.

Yours sincerely,

Mr B. Taylor
Headteacher

Mobile Phone Usage Policy

Policy

This policy outlines the appropriate use of mobile phones on our school site.

Rationale

Our Lady of the Wayside Catholic Primary School recognise that many children and their families own a mobile phone. We also recognise that some parents/guardians request that their child/ren bring a mobile phone to school for before and after school safety and well-being reasons.

Our core business of teaching and learning needs to be conducted in an environment free from unnecessary distractions or disruptions. **Therefore the school strongly discourages the routine bringing of mobile phones to school by children.** The school is prepared to allow mobile phones on the premises but only within the parameters of the policy as stated below.

- It is the responsibility of pupils who bring in mobile phones to school, to adhere to the guidelines outlined in this document.
- The decision to provide a mobile phone to their children should be made by parents or carers and as such parents should be aware if their child takes a mobile phone to school.
- In order for pupils to carry a mobile phone to school, pupils and their parents/carers must agree and sign this Acceptable Use Policy.
- In general, pupils should not bring mobile phones into school, phones should only be brought into school for safety and well being reasons.
- Mobile phones are brought to school entirely at the owner's risk. The school accepts no responsibility for replacing lost, stolen or damaged mobile phones.
- Pupils are not allowed to have in their possession or use a mobile phone during the school day.
- Parents are reminded that in cases of emergency the school office remains a vital and appropriate point of contact and can ensure your child is reached quickly and assisted in any appropriate way.
- Mobile phones must be handed into their class teacher during morning registration- they must not be used on the school playground before school.
- The phones will be secured in the classroom in a lockable box and can be collected at the end of the school day.
- Our Lady of the Wayside Catholic Primary School accepts no responsibility for pupils who lose or have their mobile phones stolen or damaged while travelling to and from school.

Appropriate Use of Mobile Phones

Child's Name _____ **Class** _____

I have read and agree to the Our of the Wayside School's Mobile Phone Policy

Signed (Parent) _____ Date _____

Signed (Child) _____ Date _____

Please return to your child's class teacher. Mobile phones are not allowed in school until this is signed and returned.