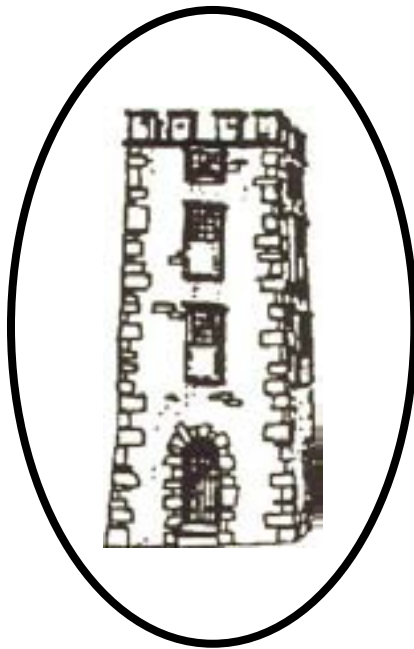


**St. Mary's Primary School
& Nursery Unit
Cushendall**



**Mobile Phone
Policy**

2018

Mobile Phone Policy
for
St Mary's Primary School & Nursery Unit, Cushendall

In a time when technology plays an increasing role in all of our lives, the growing access to complex mobile phones demands careful supervision of their use by parents and the school. Parents are expected to support the school in the implementation of this policy.

Pupils:

The use of mobile phones in St Mary's Primary School and Nursery Unit follows the guidance given by Education Support for N Ireland which takes recommendations for the Education Authority.

- St Mary's Primary School and Nursery Unit discourages pupils from bringing mobile phones to school.
- Exceptions to this would be in an emergency situation and with the express approval of the Principal or Vice-Principal, where a written request has been received from the parent/carer in the light of transport or health issues.
- If pupils bring a mobile phone to school, the phones must be switched off and left in the school safe in the secretary's office until the end of the school day. They must not be switched on while the pupil is in the school building or the school grounds.
- Should parents need to contact pupils, or vice versa, this should be done following the usual school procedures: via the school office (Tel no. 028 2177 1693)
- Where a pupil is found by a member of staff to be using a mobile phone, the pupil will be asked to turn off the phone. The phone will be taken from the pupil and handed to the Principal or Vice-Principal. The phone will be placed in the school safe in the secretary's office until the end of the school day. The parents will be informed and the pupil may collect the phone at the end of the school day.
- In the event that a child uses an unauthorised mobile phone in school on a subsequent occasion, parents will have to collect the phone in person from the Principal or Vice-Principal.
- If a pupil is found taking photographs, audio or video footage with a mobile phone of either other pupils, teachers or other school staff, this will be regarded as a serious offence and disciplinary action will be taken in line with the school's Positive Behaviour Policy.
- If images of other pupils, teachers or other school staff have been taken, the phone will not be returned to the pupil until the images have been removed by

the pupil in the presence of their parents and either the Principal or Vice-Principal.

- Parents are advised that St Mary's Primary School 7 Nursery Unit accepts no liability for the loss or damage to mobile phones which are brought into school or school grounds.

Parents:

Parents should note that the use of mobile phones in the school building or grounds is not permitted. This is a child protection matter and is in the best interests of pupils and parents.

Review:

This policy will be kept under regular review and updated as necessary.

Signed:

Mrs Anne Smart
Principal

Signed:

Mr Alastair McKillop
Chairman of Board of Governors

At Meeting 12 on 21st May 2018