

St Tiernan's Community
School
Mobile Phone and Digital
Device Policy



Last Updated: June 2022

School Policy on Mobile Phones/Devices Mobile phone/Device users must respect their social obligations at all times in school and abide by St Tiernan's mobile phone/device policy. Unauthorised picture taking or recording is a breach of a person's right to privacy and may only be done with the person's consent. Therefore, recording and picture taking are banned.

Mobile phone/Device use is strictly limited to the instructions given by the teacher and for educational use only. Screens must be visible at all times, by laying them flat, at arm's length and with screens facing upwards when in use. Concealing screens or any attempt to conceal a screen a serious breach of the Code. If a student is asked to reveal a screen, it must be done so immediately and without interference (e.g. pressing the screen/buttons) before showing it to the staff member. Social media, texting and social networking are not permitted on any digital device in the school, including phones.

Students who wish to make contact with home during the school day may do so with the permission of their Year Head. Once a student has been given permission from their Year Head, they can call home from the school landline.

Students are not permitted to contact parents via mobile phone throughout the school day or in detention. Parents/guardians who wish to contact their son/daughter should ring the school office. If parents/guardians wish to allow their child to leave school early, then a note must be written in the school journal and sent to school with their child that morning. Any further contact required by parents must be done by calling the school office on 01-2953224 from an Irish phone or 00353-1-2953224 from abroad.

Breaches of this rule should be dealt with in the following manner:

1. Confiscation until end of class (Teacher's responsibility)
2. Confiscation until end of day (Teacher's Responsibility)

Often when a mobile phone or other device is confiscated for the day, it is left in the main office with a post-it on it with the date and the student's name and year group, for collection at the end of the day; otherwise, it may be kept by the confiscating teacher.

Earphones

Use of earphones are not permitted in school except under the explicit instruction of the teachers. Earphones that are visible (i.e. hanging from pockets/jumpers) shall be confiscated without warning and returned to the student at the end of class or the school day, at the discretion of staff.