



Newpark Comprehensive School

Scoil Chuimsitheach Na Páirce Nua

MOBILE PHONES/PERSONAL MEDIA PLAYER POLICY

1. RATIONALE FOR THE POLICY

- 1.1. While Newpark Comprehensive School accepts that it is a student's right to have a mobile phone, the following policy aims to maintain a safe, nurturing, learning environment where the personal dignity and rights of all the members of the school community are preserved. In order to assist the school in implementing the policy, parents/guardians are asked not to arrange to contact students during class time. Contact with the school may be made through the school office at 2883724 in the event of an emergency. Students who feel unwell should alert the school nurse who will contact home if deemed necessary.

2. POLICY

- 2.1. Phones/personal media players are the responsibility of the individual and the school will accept no responsibility for lost, stolen or damaged items.
- 2.2. Students will be permitted to bring a mobile phone/personal media player to school under the following conditions.
 - a. Students may use phones/personal media players before school and during break times.
 - b. Phones/personal media players including ear phones must be switched off and in a locker or schoolbag at all other times.
 - c. Mobile phones are completely banned from the sports complex at all times.
 - d. Camera/video facilities may not be used at any time in school.
- 2.3. Students in contravention of these conditions will have mobile phone/personal media player confiscated until a fine of five euro has been paid. The fines will be donated to school based charity fund-raisers.
- 2.4. It is the responsibility of the staff member who confiscates the item to place it in an envelope with the name and form of student and lodge it in the front office for safe keeping.
- 2.5. In the event of a mobile phone being confiscated, the staff member will ensure the student phones or texts home to alert the parent/guardian of the situation. The student may use the office phone if necessary.
- 2.6. Refusal to hand over a mobile phone/personal media player when requested is considered a serious misdemeanour and will be dealt with under the Positive Behaviour Code.
- 2.7. **N.B. Inappropriate use of mobile phones to harass an individual will be dealt with in line with the anti-bullying policy.**

