



Nenagh College



MOBILE PHONE USE POLICY

Policy Area	Schools
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Mobile Phone Policy

Rationale

At Nenagh College we recognise the positive role that mobile phones can play in our daily lives, providing a means of communication and personal convenience. However, we are also mindful of the potential negative impact that excessive use of social media and mobile devices can have on students' wellbeing in early adolescence. Accordingly, the school reserves the right to collect mobile phones from students at the start of each school day. Phones will be securely stored and returned to students at the end of the day.

Terms and Conditions

This measure aims to help students focus on their studies, reduce distractions, and foster a more balanced school environment.

Mobile phones and all other smart devices e.g. watches, glasses etc., should never be brought into an exam, and exam papers will be cancelled if a student is found to have done so.

If a student needs to contact home urgently, they will be allowed to use the phone in the main office. Likewise, if parents need to reach their children urgently, they should phone the main office.

If a student is discovered to not have surrendered their phone, the phone will be confiscated immediately and returned to their parents, who must collect the phone by appointment with the relevant year head, Deputy principal or principal.

(Refusal, as outlined above, will result in an immediate 3-day suspension).

At all times, the privacy of a student shall be respected. Where the data on the phone is accessed, it shall only be to determine whether there has been misuse of the phone and not to monitor the personal activities of the owner.

If a phone disturbs a class or if a student is seen using a phone, during the school day, the following shall apply:

The phone will be confiscated and returned as outlined above.

If a phone has been used to take photographs/audio or video footage:

The phone will be confiscated and access to the relevant material shall be provided by the student in question.

If the material has been taken without the consent of the subject(s) therein:

Immediate suspension of 3 days will be imposed. On viewing the material, if it is the opinion of the school management that further sanction is appropriate then the matter can be referred directly to the Board of Management.

If the material has been taken without the consent of the subject(s) therein and subsequently posted on the Internet, shown to others or distributed in any manner:

The matter will be referred directly to the Board of Management.

Depending on the nature of the content viewed, school management reserves the right to contact relevant external agency / agencies (TUSLA / Gardaí).

Policy reviewed by Board of Management	27.01.26
Policy Reviewed by Student Council	15.12.25
Policy Reviewed by Parent Council	13.10.25
Policy Reviewed by Staff	13.10.25
Policy Approved by Director of Schools TETB	16.02.26

Addendum:

Policy will be implemented for all years from **September 2026**.