

## **Ardcoil na Tríonóide Mobile Phone/Electronic Music Device Policy.**

The students of Ardcoil na Tríonóide belong to a fast-moving a world where technologies allow instant communication and constant access to music as part of the popular culture. It is important that these technologies are used appropriately and that they are not use to compromise the learning environment in any way. Therefore, the school authorities adopt the following policy:

- The use of mobile phones/electronic music devices is prohibited in the school building at all times. Where a student brings a mobile phone to school, it must be switched off and kept in a locker during school times. It may not be used for any purpose in the school. If parents need to contact their child, they may do so through the school office at (059) 8633151/8638423. Students who need to contact home, may do so by asking their year head, deputy principal, or the secretary to make a phone call for them.
- **Students in contravention of the above, will have the phone including the sim card, confiscated and returned to the student after school the following day. It will not be returned to a student or parent before this under any circumstances.**
- **Where a recurring breach of the policy occurs, it will be dealt with under the Code of Behaviour. Additional sanctions will ensue.**
- There have been a number of incidences in Irish schools where mobile phones and electronic music devices have been used to bully students and/or undermine teachers. It should be noted that it is a criminal offence to use a mobile phone to menace, harass or offend another person. As such, the school may consider it appropriate to involve the Gardaí in such incidents.
- Any inappropriate texting/tweeting or communications between or about members of the school community is forbidden at any time.
- The school accepts no responsibility for replacing lost, stolen or damaged mobile phones or music devices. The safety and security of mobile phones is wholly a matter for students/parents/guardians. We would encourage students to leave their phones at home.
- Mobile phones cannot under any circumstances be taken into examination centres. Breach of this rule may lead to invalidation of that examination and potentially other examinations.
- In the case of trips, visits and other off site activities, their use is only allowed under the supervision of the teachers in charge.
- Any unauthorised or inappropriate audio, visual or digital recording of staff/students of Ardcoil na Tríonóide on any device in any capacity is strictly prohibited.

**Violation of these policies by any student is a serious offence and an appropriate sanction will be administered.**

**Note: This policy applies to any similar electronic devise to the two specified above e.g. Ipads, laptops, watches, etc.**

**Amended by the BOM on Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> November 2020.**