



Corran College

Mobile Phone and Digital Device Policy



Chairperson of Board of Management Seamus Kilgannon

Principal Martin Flynn

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Review Date 11th March 2023

Mobile Phone and Digital Device Policy

Ethos Statement

Mayo, Sligo, Leitrim ETB (MSLETB) is a community of learners with an historic and unique tradition as a provider of education and training. In responding to the needs of the community it delivers the highest standards of teaching and learning.

Corran College is a democratic, multi-denominational, coeducational school under the trusteeship of Mayo Sligo Leitrim Education and Training Board (MSLETB). Corran colleges policies, practices and attitudes are underpinned by the core values of Respect, Equity and Fairness.

Mission Statement

Corran College by excelling in teaching and learning creates opportunities for excellence for all its students through an all embracing well balanced education. We aim to achieve the highest standards of learning and behaviour in a caring atmosphere where all students feel valued.

While Corran College accepts that it is a student's right to have a mobile phone/digital device, the following policy aims to maintain a safe, nurturing environment where the personal dignity and rights of all members of the school community is respected. The school policy on mobile phones/digital devices is therefore devised with the intention of ensuring that teaching and learning can take place without interruption and also with the intention of protecting all students and staff from the potential of harassment or bullying.

Therefore:

The use of mobile telephones or any technological devices including music devices e.g. iPods, on school grounds is **forbidden**. Mobiles must always be out of sight and switched off.

In order to assist the school in implementing this policy, parents/guardians are asked not to contact students by mobile phone at any time during the school day. Contact with the school can be made through the school office at 071 9183285. Also, students may use the school phone in cases where a student needs to contact a parent/guardian in an emergency.

A student, who wishes to go home for any reason during the school day, must arrange to do so through the school office and not independently by mobile phone. This ensures that correct procedures for leaving school for a part of the day are observed. Responsibility cannot be taken by the school authorities for students who arrange independently to go home without following proper procedure. Any such behaviour is in breach of the Code of Discipline and will incur sanctions.

If a student brings a mobile phone or digital device to school, the phone should be switched off and out of sight.

Students participating in school related activities e.g. extracurricular activities, school trips or tours, must abide by the rules governing these activities.

No photographs or recordings can be taken while on school premises and/or during school related activities). The use of personal devices or assistive technology for educational purposes may be permitted during class time, **but only with the class teachers permission**. Using mobile phones/digital devices in such a way without permission can seriously infringe on people's rights and will be considered to be a serious breach of the school's Code of Positive Behaviour and a direct breach of the school's Acceptable Use Policy. (*Please see school's AUP*). If the misuse involves taking photographs or recording of other students, the school will not return the phone until such time as it is satisfied that the inappropriate material has been deleted by the Principal/Deputy Principal with permission of and in the presence of a parent or guardian.

Incidents where students use mobile phones /digital devices to bully other students or send offensive messages or calls will be investigated in accordance with our Anti Bullying Policy. It should be noted that it is a criminal offence to use a mobile phone or digital device to menace, harass or offend another person. As such, the school may consider it appropriate to involve the Gardai in such incidents.

Sanctions

Students who breach this policy will have the some or all of the following sanctions imposed.

First Offence: The mobile phone (including SIM card) or digital device will be taken from the student and given to the Principal. The student may collect the phone at the end of the school day.

Second Offence and subsequent offenses: The phone is confiscated and a parent must come and collect it at the end of the school day.

Offence3 and 4 deleted

Failure to hand over a phone when requested by a teacher, will be considered a serious breach of the code of positive behaviour.

In the event of a student using a mobile phone or being seen with one it will be confiscated. The school accepts no responsibility for replacing lost, stolen or damaged mobile phones/digital devices. The safety of these devices is wholly a matter for students and their parents/guardians.