

Drumshanbo Vocational School

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50th
Anniversary
1964-2014

Deputy Principal:

Mr. Sean Wynne M.I., M.A.

DVS Policy on mobile phones/personal media players

This document states the policy of this school concerning the possession and use of mobile phones/personal media players during the school day. The misuse of this equipment has a disruptive effect on the learning process. There are also inherent dangers associated with the misuse of internet enabled phones and camera phones. The school community must be protected from any invasion of privacy or harassment associated with the misuse of mobile phones.

It is accepted, however, that mobile phones do have positive aspects and are now widely available among the student population.

This policy encourages the responsible use of mobile phones and personal media players.

Policy

Students are permitted to bring mobile phones / personal media players to school under the following conditions:

- Phones/personal media players may be used up to the start of first class, at break times and on school tours/ field trips. This equipment must be switched off and left in the student's locker at all other times.
- Phones must not be used for taking or sending images or video at any time during the school day. Exceptions may be made and notified to students for school tours/field trips/concerts etc.
- The school authorities accept no responsibility for the safety or security of a mobile phone/personal media player. Any loss or damage will not be the responsibility of the school.

Sanctions for breach of this policy

- If a student is found to have a phone / personal media player in class, it may be confiscated by the teacher and stored in the Reception Office. It will not be returned until the end of the school week, unless collected, in person, by the pupil's parent/guardian *
- The class teacher will give a signature in the student's journal following the confiscation.
- Persistent breach of this policy may result in further sanctions to be imposed by the principal/deputy principal or year head.
- The misuse of a mobile phone – taking or sending images without approval of the school authorities or using the phone to harass in any way will be considered a serious disciplinary offence and will be dealt with under the school Anti-Bullying Policy.

**Exceptions to this may be made in special circumstances at the discretion of the principal/deputy principal*