

Gorey Educate Together National School

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Principal: Raymond Swan Deputy Principal: Imelda Wright Assistant Principal: Andrew Murray

17th January 2013

Dear Parents and Guardians of 6th class,

The following is our policy regarding pupils' mobile phones, (Ref: *School Guide for Parents and Guardians.*)

Mobile phones, electronic games, personal music players and some toys can be very distracting, anti-social or unsafe in a school environment.

The Board of Management discourages (and asks all parents to discourage) pupils from bringing mobile phones to school.

However, the Board recognises that in some cases parents may ask their child to carry a phone so that they may contact the child after school, etc. **Where an older pupil does bring a phone to school, the phone must remain switched off (in the child's schoolbag) during the school day and may not be used on school premises, grounds or during off-site school activities (such as swimming or trips.)**

Some 6th class pupils are not adhering to this policy. (In some cases, text messages were sent during class time. Pupils are also carrying phones to the playground, etc.)

The school's response to further breaches of the above policy will be as follows: where pupils are found carrying mobile phones in their pockets and/or using phones any time during the school day (if necessary the pupil can be asked to show their phone's message-log or call-log) a significant sanction will be put in place (loss of break time, non-participation in a school trip, etc.)

For repeated breaches of the policy (or for the sending of an obscene or offensive message) suspension from school can be expected.

Kind regards,

Raymond Swan
Principal

Be aware of 'Cyber Bullying' – using phones or Facebook, etc. to send hurtful or obscene messages. Please monitor your child's use of technology.