



Mobile Phone Policy

Our Mobile Phone Policy is drawn from our CEIST Charter and should be read in conjunction with our Positive Code of Behaviour.

Our Values

Promoting Spiritual and Human Development.	The policy allows us in Sancta Maria College to maximise the talents of each student in our care.
Showing Respect for Every Person	The policy promotes an environment whereby each person is respected, and the dignity of each person is valued.
Creating Community	The policy clearly sets out the parameters, allowing parents/guardians, students and the College to work together towards a common purpose and creating a sense of community.
Achieving Quality in Teaching and Learning	The policy is built around creating the conditions to inspire and motivates the learning process.
Being Just and Responsible	This policy by clearly explaining the expectations of positive behaviour, students are more in control of their journey.

Mission Statement

Sancta Maria College is an all-girls Catholic Voluntary Secondary School, under the trusteeship of CEIST and in the tradition of the Sisters of Mercy. We are a compassionate community, which strives to:

- Foster the personal growth and holistic development of all staff and students.
- Embrace Gospel Values, promoting a culture of inclusivity and respect.
- Nurture the full potential of each student through high standards of learning and teaching.
- Promote a positive partnership between all members of the school and wider community.

Rationale

Sancta Maria College acknowledges students' right to own a mobile phone; however, this policy seeks to foster a safe and supportive environment that respects the dignity and rights of everyone in the school community. To support the implementation of this policy, parents and guardians are requested not to contact students via mobile phone during school hours.

This includes break and lunchtimes. Instead, parents/ guardians can contact the school office at 01 493 4887 if they have an emergency. Students may contact parents via the school office in case of illness/ emergency.

Expectations

1. Mobile phones must be switched off before entering the school building.
2. Upon entering the building, students must store their mobile phones securely in their lockers. It is essential that students have a secure lock of a suitable size for their locker.
3. The Food Village app for the school canteen is available on student iPads. Mobile phones are therefore neither required or permitted for use and should remain switched off in lockers.
4. Senior cycle students may take their phones from their lockers, if leaving school premises at lunchtime (for access to cards etc.). These phones should be only switched on once off the school premises and switched off and placed into the locker upon return to the school premises.
5. At the end of the school day, students can take their mobile phone from their locker, but it is to remain switched off until the student has exited the school building.
6. Any student found in possession of a mobile phone during the school day will have their phone confiscated until the end of the school day. The student will also be sanctioned with an in-school detention, in line with the Positive Code of Behaviour. Students may collect their mobile phone from the school office at the end of the school day.
7. If, in exceptional circumstances, with explicit permission from a subject teacher, a mobile phone may be used for educational purposes during that class only. It is expected that the student would retrieve their mobile phone from their locker when permitted by the subject teacher and the mobile phone returned to the locker, before the end of that class period.
8. No photographs, videos (audio or visual), or recordings of any kind may be taken with a mobile phone during the school day. The use of a mobile phone in such a way will lead to sanctions under stages four and/or five of the Positive Code of Behaviour.
9. The school accepts no responsibility for replacing lost, stolen or damaged mobile phones. Students/ parents have the choice to bring the mobile phone to school or leave it at home. The safety and security of mobile phones is wholly a matter for students/parents.
10. Any necessary contact between students and their parent/guardian during the school day should be made through the general office.

P. A. Gannon

Mr. PJ Gannon
Chairperson of the Board of Management

Date: 12 February 2025

Sorcha McManus

Ms. Sorcha McManus
Acting Principal

Date: 12/02/25