



Ballinahinch National School

Scoil Náisiúnta Baile na hÍnse

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Policy on “The Use of Mobile Phones by Pupils”

Preamble:

The Board of Management and Staff of Ballinahinch National School are very aware of the great developments in Communications Technology in recent years. One of the more obvious manifestations of this development is the increase in the numbers of mobile phones. This technology means that it has never been easier for people to communicate with each other.

We feel that the use of this instant communication is unnecessary for the pupils of Ballinahinch N.S. while they are in school. The school phone number (**061 379404**) is freely available to all parents. The school phone is a cordless one, which is kept on the Principal Teacher's desk. (If the Principal is away from the school the phone is passed onto the Deputy Principal.) Any message which a parent may wish to communicate to their child/children may be relayed using the school phone.

- Problems have arisen in a number of schools where mobile phones ring during class time, thus disrupting the work of the school.
- Text Messaging and social media apps have become a new and serious weapon of school bullies.
- We want to avoid these problems in Ballinahinch N.S.

School Policy

It is the policy of Ballinahinch National School that pupils do not bring mobile phones to school

If mobile phones are found in the school, they will be confiscated and returned only when a parent / guardian calls to the school.

The co-operation of all parents in implementing this policy is requested.

Exception to the Policy:

An exception to this rule may arise where a pupil leaves the school during the school day, eg. to go on School Tour or to represent the school at games, etc.