

# *ST. NATHY'S COLLEGE*

## *MOBILE 'PHONE POLICY:*



**[Effective September 2020]**

Mobile phone technology has many positive aspects to it, however, the misuse of mobile technology in school can be very disruptive, interferes with teaching and learning, breaches people's privacy rights and can lead to bullying and harassment.

- Mobile phones, camera phones, smart watches etc and other such devices must be switched off and digitally disconnected while students are at school or within the school environment i.e. from the time a student arrives in school in the morning until he/she departs the school in the evening.
- To assist in teaching and learning a teacher may permit the use of mobile phones in class. This is permitted **only** under the expressed instruction of that teacher to switch them on for that period of the class after which the phone must again be switched off.

Students who are in breach of this regulation will have these devices (including SIM cards) confiscated. **It will be returned after a period of 5 days.** We wish to advise Parents that where such item(s) are confiscated every effort will be made to store them in safe keeping, however, the Board of Management will not take responsibility for such items in the unlikely event that they become damaged or lost.

Refusal to hand over a phone when requested is punishable by suspension.

Where such communication devices are used for:

- harassing others
- compromising the privacy of others
- circulating malicious information
- Transmitting any abusive, obscene, threatening, defamatory, offensive or harassing images or material
- videoing/recording teachers or fellow students

In addition to confiscation, **students will also face sanctions under the normal discipline system.**

Parents/Guardians are asked to cooperate and support this policy by refraining from making contact to their child's mobile phone during the school day. In the case of emergency, a student may contact home or home may contact the student using the office phone: 094 9860010 with the permission of the Year Head/Deputy Principal or Principal.