



Gaelscoil Ruairí
Maigh Nuad

Polasaí - Fóin Phóca / Uaireadóirí Cliste / Gléasanna Cliste Eile

Sainspiorad na Scoile:

Cuireann Gaelscoil Ruairí gaeloideachas páiste-lárnach den scoth ar fáil do gach páiste scoile. Cuirtear béim sa scoil ar thimpeallacht sábháilte, cairdiúil, spreagúil agus sona a chruthú ionas gur féidir le páistí forbairt ar bhonn iomlánaíoch ag tógáil na gnéithe acadúla, fisiceacha agus meabhairshláinte san áireamh. Tá béim faoi leith ar mheas a léiriú inár scoil; meas orainn féin, meas ar dhaoine eile agus meas ar an timpeallacht.

Reasúnach an Pholasaí:

Is í an aidhm atá leis an bpolasaí seo ná tacú le pobal na scoile maidir le hiompar agus na nósanna imeachta a bhaineann le fóin go príomha ach a chludaíonn uaireadóirí cliste agus gléasanna cliste eile chomh maith.

Le linn na scoilbhliana 2022/23 thosaigh pobal na scoile ag labhairt faoi fhóin agus teicneolaíocht cliste. De bharr go bhfuil páistí na scoile ag dul in aois socraíodh go raibh sé in am don scoil tabhairt faoin bpolasaí seo a dréachtadh.

Tá pobal na scoile uilig ag iarraidh na páistí a chosaint agus a choiméad slán sábháilte ó na dainséir ar líne agus iad ag freastail ar an mbunscoil.

Comhthéacs an Pholasaí:

Glaodh cruinniú poiblí chun fóin a phlé, cuireadh an chéad dréacht le chéile agus scaipeadh é chun aiseolas a lorg. Cuireadh an dara dréacht le chéile bunaithe ar an aiseolas sin.

An comhaontú ginearalta iomlán atá ag pobal na scoile ná go mbeadh sé míoiriúnach go mbeadh fóin chliste / uaireadóirí cliste nó gléasanna cliste eile ag páistí na scoile fad is bhíonn siad ar scoil.

Tá na dainséir a bhaineann leo soiléir. Aithnítear an tionchar diúltach a bhíonn ar na fóin ar fholláine na bpáistí, ar leibheál inní na bpáistí, ar bhuairteanna caomhnú páistí, ar bhulaíocht agus ar fhoghlaím ar scoil.



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Ní cheannaíonn páistí bunscoile gléasanna dóibh féin, is iad a dtuismitheoirí / a gcaomhnóirí a dhéanann na cinntí seo. Níl aon bhaint agus níor mhaith leis an scoil go mbeadh aon bhaint aici leis na cinntí seo.

Is féidir le tuismitheoir(í) / caomhnóir(í) cinneadh a dhéanamh gan na gléasanna seo a cheannach dá bpáiste(í) fad is a bhíonn siad sa bhunscoil. Táimid den tuairim go bhfuil páistí bunscoile ró-óg chun rochtain saor a bheith acu ar gach rud a d'fhéadfadh leis na gléasanna seo tabhairt faoi agus go mbeadh páistí na scoile níos sábháilte dár bharr ach arís ní cinneadh scoile í seo.

Tuigimid mar scoil go mbíonn tuairimí difriúla ag tuismitheoirí / caomhnóirí nuair a thagann sé chuig na gléasanna seo a thabhairt dá bpaistí sa bhaile agus nuair a smaoiníonn siad faoi fhóin agus a bpáistí b'fhéidir ag teacht agus ag imeacht ón scoil ina n-aonair ó rang a 3 ar aghaidh.

Aithnítear go mbíonn tuairimí, suímh agus culraí difriúla ag tuismitheoirí/caomhnóirí agus páistí na scoile agus is gá don Bhord Bainistíochta é seo a aithint agus a thógáil san áireamh. Is faoin mBord Bainistíochta atá sé an scoil a bhainistiú, an polasaí seo a dréachtú agus a chur i bhfeidhm ar mhaithe le sábháilteacht na bpáistí uile sa scoil.

Tá an Bord Bainistíochta agus pobal na scoile aontaithe go gcabhróidh an polasaí seo le hord agus le heagar an lae scoile agus go mbeidh na páistí níos sábháilte de bharr.

Cur i bhfeidhm an pholasaí:

- Ó Mheán Fómhair na bliana 2023, ní bheidh cead ag páistí na scoile fón póca / uaireadóir cliste nó aon ghléas cliste eile a thógáil ar scoil.

*** (Féach ar Chásanna Eisceachtúla thíos a bhaineann le fóin dumaí nó fóin bhunúsacha amháin)**

- Má bhíonn fón / uaireadóir cliste nó aon ghléas cliste eile ag páiste, ní mór dóibh iad a fhágáil sa bhaile.



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Smachtbhannaí:

Sa chás go bhfeictear nó go gcloistear fón ar bith / uaireadóir cliste nó gléas cliste eile ar shuíomh na scoile; sa seomra ranga, sa chlós nó in aon áit eile taobh istigh de gheataí na scoile, leanfar na céimeanna seo thíos:

- Iarrfar ar an bpáiste an fón / an t-uaireadóir cliste nó an gléas cliste eile a thabhairt don bhall foirne
- tabharfar an fón / an t-uaireadóir cliste nó an gléas cliste eile don príomhoide
- cuirfidh an rúnaí/ príomhoide gloch ar an tuismitheoir/gcaomhnóir chun teacht chun na scoile agus an fón / an t-uaireadóir cliste nó an gléas cliste eile a bhailiú agus chun freastail ar chruinniú leis an bpáiste, an múinteoir ranga agus an príomhoide mar gheall ar Chód Iompair na Scoile agus an Polasaí Fóin / uaireadóir cliste / gléasanna cliste eile seo a bhriseadh.
- Tabharfar cárta oráiste don pháiste (Rang 1 ar aghaidh)

(Tá córas na gcártaí mínithe i gCód Iompair na scoile ach tá sé fíor-thábhachtach go dtuigtear go bhféadtar le páiste a bheith curtha ar fionraí nó díbeartha ón scoil i ndiaidh cárta dearg a fháil)

* Is scoil Chuimsitheach í Ghaelscoil Ruairí a chuireann comhionannas chun chinn agus a thógann comhthéasc gach páiste san áireamh. Is mar gheall ar seo go mbeidh an Bord Bainistíochta ag tógáil Cásanna Eisceachtúla san áireamh.



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***Cásanna Eisceachtúla:**

Baineann sé seo le Fón Dumaí/ bunúsach amháin agus ní le fón cliste ar bith , uaireadóir cliste ar bith nó gléas cliste ar bith eile.

Ní cheanglaíonn fón dumaí / bunúsach chuig an idirlíon. Ní dhéanann sé aon rud seachas glaochanna fóin a dhéanamh.

Is féidir le tuismitheoirí/caomhnóirí a gcás eisceachtúil a chur i scríobhinn chuig an Bord Bainistíochta agus é a sheoladh chuig an gCathaoirleach trí ríomhphoist an phríomhoide, príomhoide@gaelscoilruairi.ie chun a léiriú go bhfuil gá ag a bpáiste **fón dumaí / bunúsach** a thógáil ar scoil ina mála scoile de bharr chúnsaí a bhaineann le roimh theacht isteach tríd gheataí na scoile ar maidin nó i ndiaidh dul amach ó geataí na scoile san iarnóin. D'fhéadfadh sé ceithre seachtaine a thógáil ar an mBord Bainistíochta teacht ar ais le freagra i ndiaidh an ríomhphoist a sheoladh. Ní ghlacfaidh an Bord Bainistíochta le hiarratais d'aon pháiste nach bhfuil i Rang a 3 nó níos airde. Ní ghlacfaidh an Bord Bainistíochta le hiarratais a bhaineann le fóin chliste, uaireadóirí cliste nó gléasanna cliste ar bith eile, toisc nach bhfuil siad ceadaithe ar láithreán na scoile.

Má cheadaíonn an Bord Bainistíochta an fón dumaí / bunúsach ar laithreáin na scoile seo a leanas na tearmaí a bhaineann leo;

- Níl cead ag aon pháiste fón cliste, uaireadóir cliste nó aon ghléas cliste eile a thógáil isteach ar scoil leo ariamh.
- Is fón dumaí / bunúsach amháin (fón nach gcleanglaíonn leis an idirlíon agus nach ndéanann aon rud seachas glaochanna fóin amháin) atá ceadaithe sna **Cásanna Eisceachtúla** seo.
- Tá ar an bpáiste an fón a mhúchadh agus é a chur ina malaí scoile **roimh** theacht isteach chuig chlós na scoile agus gan iad a bhaint go dtí go bhfágann siad clós na scoile ag deireadh an lae.



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- Ní ghlacfaidh an scoil aon fhreagracht as fóin chaillte.
- Má bhíonn gá teagmháil le déanamh leis an mbaile, déantar é seo trí oifig na scoile amháin.
- Má theastaíonn ó thuismitheoirí teagmháil a dhéanamh lena bpáiste, déantar é seo trí oifig na scoile amháin.
- Má fheictear nó má chloistear an fón ar shuíomh na scoile; sa seomra ranga, sa chlós nó in aon áit eile taobh istigh de gheataí na scoile, leanfar na céimeanna seo thíos:
 - Iarrfar ar an bpáiste an fón a thabhairt don bhall foirne
 - tabharfar an fón don príomhoide
 - cuirfidh an rúnaí/ príomhoide glaoch ar an tuismitheoir/gcaomhnóir
 - iarrfar ar an tuismitheoir/ gcaomhnóir teacht chun na scoile agus an fón a bhailiú agus chun freastail ar chruinniú leis an bpáiste, an múinteoir ranga agus an príomhoide mar gheall ar Chód Iompair na Scoile agus an polasaí ar Fhóin, Uaireadóirí Cliste agus Gléasanna Cliste Eile a bhriseadh.
 - Tabharfar cárta bán don pháiste
 - Tabharfar cárta oráiste don pháiste láithreach más fón cliste / uaireadóir cliste nó gléas cliste eile atá ann de bharr nach mbíonn gléasanna cliste ceadaithe ariamh.



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(Tá córas na gcártaí mínithe i gCód Iompair na scoile ach tá sé fíor-thábhachtach go dtuigtear go bhféadtar le páiste a bheith curtha ar fionraí nó díbeartha ón scoil i ndiaidh chárta dearg a fháil)

Conradh:

Beidh an conradh seo le síniú ag an bPríomhoide, ag na tuismitheoirí / caomhnóirí agus ag an bpáiste má cheadaíonn an Bord bainistíochta fón dumaí / bunúsach ar scoil;

Tuigimid na téarmaí a bhaineann leis an gceadú seo ón mBord Bainistíochta atá mínithe go soiléir sa pholasaí 'Fón Póca, Uaireadóirí Cliste agus Gléasanna Cliste Eile' faoi **Cásanna Eisceachtúla**.

Síniú an pháiste: _____

Síniú an tuismitheora / chaomhnóra: _____

Síniú an Phríomhoide: _____

Dáta: _____



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Mobile Phone / Smart Watches / Smart Devices Policy:

School's Characteristic Spirit:

Gaelscoil Ruairí provides excellent child-centered, Irish-Medium education for all children. An emphasis is placed on creating a safe, friendly, inspiring and content environment to allow children to develop holistically, prioritising academic development as well as physical literacy and mental wellbeing. There is a particular emphasis on showing respect in our school; respect for ourselves, for others and for the environment.

Rationale of Policy:

The aim of this policy is to support the school community in relation to the behaviours and habits associated primarily with mobile phones but also includes smart watches and other smart devices.

During the 2022/23 school year the school community started discussing phones and smart technology and devices. As the children in the school are getting older it was decided that it was time for the school to draft this policy.

The whole school community wants to protect the children and keep them safe from online dangers during their time in primary school.

Context of Policy:

A public meeting was called to discuss the subject of phones with the school community and an initial draft was devised. An initial draft was distributed and feedback was gathered. A second draft was then distributed based on this feedback.



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The overall general consensus from the school community is that it would be inappropriate for children to have smartphones, smart watches or any other smart devices with them on schoolgrounds.

The dangers associated with these are clear. The negative effect on children's wellbeing, heightened anxiety levels, child protection and bullying concerns as well as their effect on children's learning have all been acknowledged.

Children don't buy their own devices, rather it is the parents/guardians who make these decisions and the school has no part (nor do we wish) to have a part in such decisions.

Parents / guardians may decide not to buy these devices for their children in primary school. We are of the opinion that primary school children are too young to have free access to everything these devices can do and believe children would be safer without them but this is not a school decision.

We as a school understand that parents / guardians have different opinions when it comes to giving their children access to devices at home and when it comes to mobile phones and thinking about their children potentially arriving at and leaving school unaccompanied from 3rd class.

It is recognised that parents / guardians have different perspectives, circumstances and backgrounds and the school's Board of Management must recognise and take this into account. It is the responsibility of the Board of Management to manage the school, to draft and to implement this policy for the safety of all children in the school.

The Board of Management and the Gaelscoil Ruairí school community are in agreement that this policy will ensure the orderly running of the school day and a safer environment for the children.

Implementation of Policy:

- From September 2023, **no child will be allowed to bring a mobile phone, a smart watch**



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or any other smart device onto the school grounds * (See Below for Exceptional Circumstances relating to Dummy / Basic Phones)

- If a child does have a phone, a smart watch or other smart devices they must leave them at home.

Sanctions:

If any member of staff sees or hears a mobile phone, a smart watch or any other smart device on school grounds; in the classroom, in the school yard or anywhere else within the gates of the school, the following steps will be followed:

- The staff member will ask the child to give them the mobile phone / smart watch or other smart device.
- The staff member will give the mobile phone / smart watch or other smart device to the principal.
- The secretary/ principal will ring the parent/ guardian to arrange for the phone/smart watch or other smart device to be collected and to organise a meeting between the child, the class teacher, the principal and the parent/guardian due to the school's Code of Behaviour and Phone / Smart watch and Smart Device Policy not being adhered to.
- The child will receive an orange card. (1st class onwards)

(The school's Card System is explained in the school's Code of Behaviour but it is important to understand that a child can be suspended or expelled after receiving a red card)

* Gaelscoil Ruairí is an inclusive school which promotes equality and which takes each child's context into account. It is because of this that the school's Board of Management will take exceptional cases into account.



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*** Exceptional Cases:**

This solely relates to dummy / basic phones and not to smart phones, smart watches or any other smart devices.

Dummy / smart Phones are basic phones which are unable to connect to the internet. All they can do is make phone calls.

Parents/Guardians can present their exceptional case to the school's Board of Management illustrating why their child will need to have a **dummy / basic phone** in their school bag for reasons relating to their activities before entering and upon leaving the school gates each day. This case can be made in writing to the Chairperson by emailing priomhoide@gaelscoilruairi.ie. It may take up to four weeks from the time the email is sent for the Board of Management to come back with a reply. The Board of Management will only accept such applications for children in 3rd class or higher. The Board of Management will not accept any applications relating to smart phones, smart watches or any other smart devices. These are not permitted on school grounds.

If the Board of Management allows a dummy / basic phone on the school grounds the following terms will apply;

- No child has permission to bring a smart phone, a smart watch or any other smart device onto the school grounds.
- These exceptional cases only apply to dummy / basic phones (phones that are unable to connect to the internet and can only make phone calls)
- The child is required to switch off the dummy phone and put it in their school bags **before** they enter the school yard and not to remove it from their bags until they leave the school grounds at the end of the day.



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- The school will not accept responsibility for lost or damaged phones.
- If parents/ guardians need to be contacted, this will be done through the school office only.
- If parents wish to contact their child, this will be done through the school office only.

If any member of staff sees or hears a mobile phone on school grounds; in the classroom, in the school yard or anywhere else within the gates of the school, the following steps will be followed:

- The staff member will ask the child to give them the dummy/ basic phone.
- The staff member will give the dummy / basic phone to the principal.
- The secretary/ principal will ring the parent/ guardian to arrange for the dummy / basic phone to be collected and to organise a meeting between the child, the class teacher, the principal and the parent/guardian due to the school's Code of Behaviour and Phone / Smart Watch and Smart Devices Policy not being adhered to.
- The child will receive a white card
- The child will receive an orange card if the child has a smart phone, smart watch or other smart device in school as smart devices are not permitted on school grounds

(The school's Card System is explained in the school's Code of Behaviour but it is important to understand that a child can be suspended or expelled after receiving a red card)

Contract:

This contract must be signed by the parents/ guardians / child and principal if a dummy / basic phone is permitted in school by the Board of Management;



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We understand the terms associated with this permission granted by the Board of management as explained in detail in the 'Mobile Phone, Smart Watches and Smart Devices Policy' under **Exceptional Circumstances.**

Child's Signature: _____

Parent / Guardian's signature: _____

Principal's Signature: _____

Date: _____