**Firhouse Educate Together N.S.**

**Pupil Mobile Phone Policy**

***February 2018***

This policy outlines the appropriate use of mobile phones and electronic devices in our school.

**Rationale:**

The use of mobile phones and other electronic devices contravenes the provision of a safe and secure school environment and is not conducive to learning, a provision which is central to the mission statement and ethos of Firhouse E.T.N.S.

***Phones must not be seen or heard on the school premises***.

**Introduction:**

As a general rule, pupils should NOT bring mobile phones to school. We recommend that smartphones are discouraged .We do accept that in some circumstances parents may require their child to bring a mobile phone to school.

**Where a pupil brings a mobile phone to school, the phone must be:**

* Clearly labelled with the pupil’s name
* Fully turned off at the school gate, **before entering school grounds**
* Stored in the pupils schoolbag. Pupils cannot carry a phone on their person
* Switched off until the pupil is **outside the school gate after the school day**

The use of mobile phones and smart devices during the school day is completely forbidden.
In the case of emergency, parents may contact the school at (01) 406 1010.

Pupils are not permitted to use mobile phones during extracurricular activities, or offsite school activities. A staff member will have a mobile phone in these circumstances.

**Sanctions:**

Pupils who ignore school policy and use a mobile phone on school grounds, or are seen with a mobile phone will be required to hand over the device to a member of staff, and parents will be informed.

The phone will remain in the office and may only be retrieved by a parent or guardian of the pupil. The school will treat a breach of this policy as we treat any other breach of school discipline.

**The school accepts no responsibility for replacing lost, stolen or damaged mobile phones. The safety and security of mobile phone is solely a matter for pupils and their parents.**