



*POBALScoil NA BóINNE*  
*BOYNE COMMUNITY SCHOOL*

Trim,  
Co. Meath.  
C15RK79

May 3<sup>rd</sup> 2024

Dear Parent/ Guardian,

As you are aware we have put a considerable amount of time into reviewing our Mobile Phone Policy this year. Our actions in this regard have included the following;

- Survey to all Stakeholders - Parents, Students and Teachers.
- Online meeting for Parents with Blackwater Community School who are currently using our proposed solution.
- Consultation with the Parent Partnership Group and the Student Council.
- Online meeting for our Student Council with the Student Council from Blackwater Community School.
- Presentation to the school community on proposed new policy.

In considering a change to our Mobile Phone Policy we are focusing on our core values of Respect, Pride and Belonging (Meas, Mórtas, Muintearas). We have considered the negative impact that mobile phones and social media have on young people and our hope is that by taking decisive action we will enhance the sense of belonging in our school community and in turn support student wellbeing.

Our belief is in line with 78.9% of parents who are in favour of access to mobile phones being reduced during the day. All things considered we will be pursuing a locked pouch model to eliminate access to mobile phones in school next year.

For the next academic year students will need to have a Yondr Pouch. These will be purchased from the school at a cost of €20, the remainder of the cost is being covered by the school. As detailed in the policy students must keep their phones off and locked in the pouch for the school day. They will only be able to access them at the unlocking stations around the school premises at the end of the day.

The details with regard to this new Mobile Phone Policy are included in the draft document on our website. You can also access the presentation that was given to students, which includes the results of our surveys and feedback from the other school. The new policy is now open for consultation until Friday May 10th and we would appreciate any feedback you would like to offer. You can access a feedback document and all of the above [here](#).

Jean Ryan  
PRINCIPAL

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Following on from the consultation period we will finalise the policy and share further details with respect to the purchase of the Yondr Pouch.

We feel that this will be a very positive change for our school community and we appreciate your support in implementing a policy that has student mental health and wellbeing as its focus

Kind regards,



Jean Ryan  
Principal