

Yondr Policy



St Joseph's Secondary School
Spanish Point,
Miltown Malbay,
Co. Clare
V95 NW01

www.stjosephsspanishpoint.com

Mission Statement

St. Joseph's is a Catholic school, based on Gospel Values and in the Mercy tradition under the trusteeship of CEIST.

It is characterised by the following:

- *Reverence and Respect,**
- *Responsibility,**
- *Justice,**
- *Care and Compassion,**
- *Tolerance and Inclusion**
- *Hospitality**

Our mission is to:

- Develop and promote the personal, academic and spiritual potential of each student in a caring and disciplined environment.
- Foster a sense of self-esteem, honesty and respect among all members of the school community.
- Assist students in developing appropriate life skills and social awareness.
- Offer direction and leadership in the educational field in the local community.

CEIST Charter

The core values of CEIST are intended to support and nourish the lives of the people at the heart of our school: students, staff and parents. Its key principles focus on:

- Promoting spiritual and human development
- Achieving quality in teaching and learning
- Showing respect for every person
- Creating community
- Being just and responsible

This policy is prepared in accordance with the Schools Code of Behaviour and in compliance with Acceptable Usage Policy.

Aims

This Policy endeavours to:

- Implement the Yondr System thus enabling St Joseph's Spanish Point to become a Phone Free Environment
- Foster a spirit of cooperation and good communication between all partners in the school community.
- Create an environment conducive to teaching and learning.
- Enable the partners to promote a positive image of the school in the wider community.

Policy Summary

At St. Joseph's Secondary School Spanish Point, we believe that a phone-free space will improve teaching and learning. Subconsciously many of us are tempted to pick up our smartphones and start scrolling through social media and text messages even when we are sitting face to face with our friends or family members. We believe that learning and social behaviour improves drastically when students are fully engaged with their teachers and classmates.

How Yondr Works



POUCH

As a student enters school, they place their phone in their assigned Yondr pouch.



SECURE

The pouch is closed and secured. Each student keeps their pouch throughout the day.



EXIT

When leaving school, the student taps their pouch to an unlocking base to release their phone.

Pouches are rented from St Josephs Secondary School for €10 a year.

***if a students opts not to rent a Yondr Pouch, the students must sign a declaration that he/she will leave their phone at home (see exceptions below). Failure to do so will lead to breach of policy.**

Students Roles & Responsibilities

1. Each student must give a commitment to accept the Yondr System and to fulfil the expectations as set out in the Policy.
As students **Arrive to School**, they will:
 - ✓ Turn their mobile phone off.
 - ✓ Open their Yondr Pouch by tapping against the Unlocking Base.
 - ✓ Place their Mobile inside the Pouch and secure it.
2. As students **Leave School**, they will:
 - ✓ Open their Pouch, remove their phone,
 - ✓ Close their Pouch and put it in their school bag for the following day.
3. Students must bring their Pouch to school with them each day.
4. Students arriving late or leaving early will pouch/unpouch their phones as above
5. Students must keep the pouch free from any damage

Parental Role & Responsibilities

- Parents/Guardians have a duty to support the school in implementing the Yondr system.

Classroom Teacher Role & Responsibilities

- To commit and model a phone free environment whereby unless for educational purposes teachers mobile phone will not be visible within the school environment.
- Carefully plan lessons where mobile phone use is required.
- To implement this policy, following through with sanctions if breach of policy exists

Non-Teaching Staff (SNAs, Admin, Caretaker) Role & Responsibilities

- To respect this policy and help in trying to achieve a phone free environment
- To commit and model a phone free environment whereby unless for educational purposes mobile phone will not be visible within the school environment.

Principal/ Deputy Principal Role & Responsibilities

- To commit, promote and model a phone free environment whereby unless for educational purposes mobile phone will not be visible within the school environment.
- To implement the Yondr policy
- To communicate with parents when breaches of policy arises

Breaches of Policy

- If a teacher or staff member sees a mobile phone out of its Yondr Pouch it will be confiscated. It must be given to the teacher or staff member on request and it will be left in the school office to be collected by the student's parent/guardian. It will be recorded in VSware along with a text message to a parent/guardian.
- The Yondr pouch is the property of St Joseph's Spanish Point. If a student damages or tampers with a Yondr pouch, they will be held responsible. Note: Damage consists of any signs that the physical integrity of the pouch has been compromised, whether intentional or unintentional, as determined by the school or Yondr staff.
- Failure to adhere to this policy will result in sanctions in conjunction with St Joseph's Spanish Points Code of Behaviour Policy. For example, failure to hand over the phone (if not in Yondr Pouch) on request will be processed as defiance of authority.

Exemptions from the use of a Yondr Pouch

- **Medical exemptions whereby a mobile phone is essential for the health of the student.** In this circumstance, medical evidence will have to be provided. Parents/guardians must notify the school at the beginning of every school year.
- **If a student opts not to rent the Yondr pouch,** the student and parents must sign a declaration that they will leave their phone at home. In the event a breach of this, and their phone is visible while in the school environment it will be confiscated as per the policy.

After School Study

- This School policy applies to after school study

School Trips

- Depending on the nature of the school trip, students may be given access to their mobile phones on the following situation: educational needs, health & safety needs and/or emergency needs.
- Each trip will be assessed separately and the school will decide whether access to phones is necessary and if so it may be granted to students

Areas for unlocking base

- Exterior Walls of the Technical Block

Contact Details

- A Parent/ Guardian is welcome to contact the school. If you have a message for a student it can be communicated through our email address admin@stjosephsspanishpoint.com
- In the event of an emergency and you need to speak to your son/daughter urgently, Please phone the office on 065 – 7084311
- Remember, students will have access to their phones immediately after school as they leave the school grounds to view any messages.

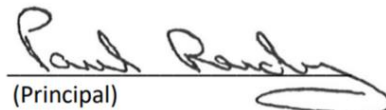
REVIEW AND AMENDMENTS

This Policy will be subject to regular monitoring and review. This Policy will be reviewed by school management and may be revoked, replaced or amended at any time and stakeholders will be informed accordingly.

Policy Ratified: 15/09/2022

Interim Review: December 2022

Signed: 
(Chairperson of Board of Management)

Signed: 
(Principal)

Date: 15/09/2022

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