



Larkin Community College Coláiste Pobail Lorcáin

22 August 2024

Dear Parents/Guardians,

We look forward to welcoming you and your child to our school community on Friday at 9.40. We are here to make sure your child's transition is smooth and enjoyable.

We invite parents to stay for tea/coffee in the library, this will give you an opportunity to meet other parents, and chat to staff.

We are writing to inform you about an initiative aimed at **enhancing the learning environment** and addressing concerns related to distractions caused by personal electronic devices as discussed at the Information Evening.

Commencing on Monday 26th August, we will introduce the use of Yondr pouches in our classrooms. These pouches are designed to **establish phone-free zones**, fostering a focused and **productive learning atmosphere**, which we believe will **positively impact the overall educational experience** of our students.

The Yondr pouch is a small, lockable case that securely holds a student's phone during class time. Each morning, students will be required to place their phones in the provided Yondr pouches. The pouches remain locked throughout the class period, and students can only unlock them using a designated Yondr unlocking base located throughout the school.

Understanding the significance of staying connected should you need to contact your child during the school day, please do so by reaching out to the school via phone or the school app.

We believe that the implementation of Yondr pouches will create a more focused and conducive learning environment for all students. Research indicates that reduced access to personal devices during class time can improve academic performance, attention spans, and overall student well-being.

Any use of mobile phones and other electronic devices outside the designated times specified constitutes a violation of the school's code of conduct.

There is a €20 charge for damage to the pouch.

We encourage you to discuss the introduction of Yondr pouches with your child, emphasising the educational benefits of minimizing distractions during class. We are confident that this initiative will contribute to a positive and effective learning experience for all students.

Your partnership is invaluable in creating a successful and distraction-free learning environment for our students. Thank you for your understanding and cooperation.

If your child does not bring a phone to school, they must register their name with their year head.

Yours sincerely,

Thomas Usher

**Thomas Usher,
Principal.**