



## Mobile Phone Policy for Trainees

The safety and welfare of our trainees is paramount with this in mind, Sail Training Ireland (STIRL) recognises that mobile phones and digital devices are now an integral part of young peoples' culture and way of life and can have considerable value, particularly in relation to individual safety.

It is recognised that such technology will play an increasing part in future learning practices, but, like existing ICT use, this should follow agreed rules and guidelines to prevent any safety issues.

STIRL therefore accepts that trainees are permitted to bring mobile phones and digital devices on their voyage but that their use is subject to the following guidelines.

**Note: The term 'mobile phone' in this policy denotes mobile phones, iPods, MP3, MP4 players and any similar portable electronic devices.**

1. Mobile phones may be used onboard when off watch, during rest periods and shore leave.
2. Mobile phone use is prohibited during training and while on watch, unless otherwise stated by a STIRL mentor or crew member.
3. During all training sessions, mobile phones must remain out of sight and in silent mode.
4. Unless explicitly allowed by an STIRL mentor or crew member, headphones (recommended use of only one ear bud to ensure that safety drills or alarms can be heard) and other listening devices may only be used. while off watch and during rest periods.
5. Mobile phones must be placed in, backpacks, or their personal space within their cabins while on watch.
6. If a trainee needs to place an emergency phone call while on watch, they should request permission from the STIRL mentor or Watch Leader. (This is to ensure they have privacy, and their watch is covered for safety)
7. The ship, its crew members or STRL are not responsible for any damage to or loss of a trainee's Mobile phone. Trainees must properly secure and take care of their own phones.
8. Trainees and their parents must read the Mobile phone policy and return a signed copy to the office along with medical and parental consent forms. Signing the policy acknowledges acceptance. Trainees will not be permitted to have their phones unless it is safe to do so.

If trainees violate this Mobile phone policy, the following may occur:

- **First offense:** The trainee's Mobile phone will be confiscated by the STIRL mentor or crew member and held in the main office until the end of their watch period.
- **Subsequent offense:** The trainee's Mobile phone will be confiscated and held in the main office until the end of the day or longer.

Trainee Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Parents Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_