

**Monday 9 June 2025 – Anonymous 16**

To: Scrutiny Communications <[Scrutiny@gov.je](mailto:Scrutiny@gov.je)>

Subject: Online Harms Review

I think we should ban mobile phones for U16s.  
They are harmful to children's mental health and wellbeing.

My child is 11 and due to start secondary in September. We have not allowed him to have a smart phone, screen time playing games at home is more than enough! He will play for hours if allowed, it is like an addiction!

I do not want him exposed to dangerous content online via social media. Children are not mentally and emotionally capable of identifying what is suspect/dangerous and are too trusting of what they see online. The constant monitoring of what they see/worrying about it would be exhausting if he had a phone. Plus kids are very good at bypassing parental controls!!

I am concerned about cyber bullying, even not having a phone will probably open him up to mocking at secondary school. What is the point of banning them 'in school time' and handing them back at 3pm every day? It just opens the flood gates for viewing inappropriate material/cyber bullying/bullying over who has the best iPhone on the bus home. This policy makes it very difficult for parents who make the choice to not allow phones, as basically school is saying: it's fine to have one.

How have we allowed society to be ruled by giant tech companies who make endless profits from allowing children to be exploited in this way? It is clearly wrong.