



KATHYRN SCHOOL



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Student Cell Phone Policy 2020/2021

Dear Parents/Guardians;

Similar to previous school years, students in grades 6-8 are expected to follow the expectations for cell phone use at school. The document below will explain how this policy will be administered for the 2020/2021 school year.

Students in grades 6-8 are permitted to bring cell phones to school. However, **students who choose to bring cell phones to school do so at their own risk. The school assumes NO liability for lost, stolen or damaged cell phones.**

Purpose/Rationale:

There is significant research that suggests the use of cell phones in middle and elementary schools has a concerning effect on the academic performance and emotional well-being of students. At Kathryn School, we believe that regulations on the use of cell phones will help to foster positive relationships and student wellness. As educators, we recognize the educational importance of using technology. Therefore, students in grades 6-8 are provided with a school-issued computer for this purpose.

Expectations for Student Cell Phone Use:

- Cell phones must be on silent upon entering the building and remain on silent throughout the remainder of the school day.
- Cell phones are to be stored in student backpacks during class time. Student backpacks and possessions are currently stored in the classroom as lockers are not available for use at this time.
- Cell phones may be used appropriately during the eating portion of lunch and returned to backpacks prior to going outside for lunch recess. Classrooms are locked once students exit.
- Appropriate cell phone usage includes safe and school-appropriate usage of social media apps such as Snapchat and Instagram as well as school-appropriate video games and video content.
- Due to the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy (FOIP) Act, cell phone cameras and audio recorders may only be used for specific educational benefits and only with the prior permission of the teacher or administrator. This includes during the lunch break.
- Cell phones may NOT be brought into the washroom or locker rooms at any time.

Infractions:

Infractions will be addressed as follows:

First Infraction: Verbal warning from witnessing staff member (student reminded of expectation and asked to put phone away).

Second Infraction: Phone is turned in to the office, where it is held securely until the end of the school day, at which point the phone is collected by the student. Parents are notified of the infraction.

Third Infraction: Phone is turned in to the office, where it is held securely until the end of the day and parents are notified to pick up the phone.

Fourth infraction: Phone is turned in to the office and a plan is established between school administration and the parent/guardian.

Note:

We recognize that there are times when you need to get a hold of your child during the school day. Please contact the school office at 403-935-4291 and messages will be forwarded to your child.

Students may use the office phone with permission in the event they need to contact a parent during class time.

This policy has been reviewed and discussed with students.

Thank you for your support as we continue to work to provide the most ideal learning environment for your child. Please do not hesitate to contact your child's homeroom teacher with any questions.

Sincerely,
The Kathryn Middle School Team

Mr. Drummond, Mrs. McCorquindale, Ms. Rott, Ms. Ruzicka