

Smart Tech (Smartphones/ Smartwatches/ Smart Glasses)

The school appreciates and understands the needs of older students having a smartphone. They offer convenience for traveling to and from school, a safety net, and connections to family and emergency services. However, these devices can be used at inappropriate times, in inappropriate locations, and for inappropriate purposes. As such, the school will limit and monitor the use of devices on campus by staff and students.

Students are not permitted to wear or bring AI or smart glasses to campus.

Student Expectations and Consequences

If a student brings a smartphone or smartwatch to campus, the following regulations apply strictly across all school-sanctioned events, field trips, and daily operations:

1. If a student brings a smartphone/smartwatch to campus it must be switched to silent mode and remain in their knapsack/school bag.
2. Smartphone/Smartwatch cannot be used during class transition or when walking around campus.
3. Elementary students cannot use a smartphone/smartwatch during recess, lunch, or an ECA.
4. Students may use a smartphone/smartwatch for educational purposes if explicit approval is given by the class teacher as the device offers a support/function not available on the student's main device (laptop/iPad). Once the task is completed, the device must be immediately returned to the student's bag.
5. Smartphone/smartwatch must not be taken to the washroom. Washrooms are spaces where students must feel safe, and where they have an expectation of privacy. This rule is in place to protect students' emotional safety in the washrooms, and to minimize time spent out of class. Signs will be posted in all school washrooms. No exceptions will be allowed.
6. Videos and images are not to be taken without the permission of a teacher and for an educational purpose. This includes taking videos at recess. Before taking an image with a smartphone/smartwatch or camera the student must receive explicit permission from the teacher and image subjects. (PG to 6)
7. Cellphones/smartphones cannot be used to circumvent other school policies, including web access, managed filtered firewall setting, or act as a bridge/hotspot between other devices.

Progressive Consequences for Infractions

Staff members monitor device usage campus-wide. Should a student utilize a smartphone or smartwatch inappropriately or without permission, the following progressive discipline protocol will be enforced:

- **First Offence:** The teacher will issue exactly one (1) verbal warning. If the behaviour continues or a second incident occurs, the student will be sent immediately to the Vice Principal. The device will be confiscated and checked into the Elementary Office every morning, to be collected only after dismissal, for a duration of three (3) consecutive school days.
- **Second Offence:** The student must check their device into the Elementary Office every morning and collect it after dismissal for a duration of five (5) consecutive school days.
- **Third Offence:** The device will be formally confiscated. It will not be returned to the student; a parent or guardian must physically come to the School to collect the device from administration on the day of the incident.
- **Any student found with a device inside a washroom, or using a device immediately when exiting a washroom, will be sent directly to the Vice Principal. No warnings will be given. The student will face an immediate mandatory 5-day office check-in penalty for a first offense. A second washroom offense will require immediate parental collection of the device.**

Field Trips and Off-Campus Events

Students are not permitted to bring smartphones or smartwatches on field trips unless explicit permission is granted by the trip supervisor. Teachers may authorize devices if they are required for medical/health tracking, transit coordination, or as an essential safety tool in remote areas (e.g., hiking).

Cyberbullying and Digital Conduct

All students are expected to uphold the DSC Code of Conduct by treating others with respect, civility, and kindness. Cyberbullying, online harassment, and digital meanness have an immense impact on classroom dynamics and school climate. Students will be held fully accountable for any online activity that negatively impacts the school environment, regardless of whether the activity occurred outside of school hours. Any student found to have created, shared, or re-posted harmful or hurtful material will lose all personal device privileges on campus for two (2) weeks immediately following their return from any associated school suspension.

Parents should call the school office if there is an emergency and they need to speak with their child(ren).