



MOBILE PHONE POLICY

PREPARED: Nov 3, 2020

AMENDED: Feb 3, 2021

APPROVED: May 12, 2021

BACKGROUND

Mobile phones have great utility and can serve as an educational tool but they can also have a detrimental effect on a student's concentration levels and academic performance due to the distractions they can provide. Academic research has shown that restricting mobile phones during the school day can improve focus during lessons and, as a result, improve academic performance. In addition, face-to-face social interactions typically become more frequent, and incidents of conflict and tardiness have been shown to be reduced. As TIS is a 1 to 1 laptop school, students have their laptops as a technological tool to engage in their learning tasks during the day, when required, so phone access is not essential to most learning activities.

GUIDELINES

- Students are allowed to use mobile phones on school grounds and buildings prior to the official start of classes and after the end of day's classes.
 - Elementary school - before 8:30am, after 3:05pm
 - Secondary school - before 9:00am, after 3:35pm, and lunch time
- Students are expected to keep mobile phones in their lockers during the school day.
 - Elementary school - 8:30am - 3:05pm
 - Secondary school - 9:00am - 3:35pm (except during lunch)
- Students may contact their parents/guardian, as needed, from the telephones located in their respective Elementary/Secondary school office.
- Parents/guardians may contact their child, as needed, via the respective Elementary/Secondary school office.



- Teachers may allow use of mobile phones for educational purposes during lessons.

CONSEQUENCES FOR VIOLATION OF POLICY:

- 1st offence: mobile phone will be taken to the respective Elementary/Secondary school office and may be collected by the student at the end of the school day.
- 2nd offence: mobile phone will be taken to the respective Elementary/Secondary school office and may be collected by the student's parent/guardian at the end of the school day.
- 3rd offence: mobile phone will be taken to the respective Elementary/Secondary school office and may be collected by the student's parent/guardian after 5 school days.

USE OF OTHER TECHNOLOGY DEVICES AT SCHOOL (applies to Secondary school students only):

- laptop/iPad device: students are allowed to use during normal lessons, breaks, lunch, before and after school, in approved locations.
- gaming devices: students are allowed during lunch or before and after school, in approved locations.
- headphones: students are allowed during lunch or before and after school. Teachers may permit use of headphones connected to laptop devices during lessons.