



CC1006: STANDARDS FOR THE USE OF PERSONAL MOBILE DEVICES (CELL PHONE POLICY)

Policy Creation Date: August 2024

Approval Date: August 2024

Purpose:

To establish guidelines for the use of personal mobile devices by students at WISE Charter School, ensuring that the learning environment remains focused, distraction-free, and conducive to academic success.

Policy Statement:

The use of personal mobile devices by students during school hours at WISE Charter School is strictly regulated to maintain a focused and respectful learning environment. This policy outlines the standards and expectations for the use of mobile devices within the school setting.

General Restrictions:

1. Prohibited Use During School Hours:

- Students are not permitted to use personal mobile devices during school hours. Devices must be handed to the teacher at the beginning of each school day and will be returned to students at the end of the day.

2. Exceptions for Travel:

- Students traveling independently on public transit may bring a cell phone to school but must follow the standard procedure of handing it to the teacher upon arrival.

3. Classroom Communication:

- Students may use the classroom or office phone to communicate with their family during school hours.

Temporary Access to Cell Phones:

1. Teacher Discretion:

- In specific cases, such as when a student needs to communicate with a guardian who is unavailable by phone call, the teacher may temporarily allow the student to access their cell phone. This access is strictly controlled and must be returned immediately after use.

2. Unauthorized Use:

- If a cell phone is used without permission during school hours, it will be confiscated and taken to the office. The student will not be able to retrieve it at the end of the day. Instead, a parent or guardian will be required to pick up the device on the student's behalf.

Parental Support:

1. Communication with Parents:
 - Families are strongly encouraged to support this policy by informing the Class Teacher if their child is bringing a phone to school. This communication helps ensure that the policy is followed and that the learning environment remains uninterrupted.
2. Policy Communication:
 - The policy will be included in the Parent Handbook and Employee Handbook and posted on the website.
3. Educational Resources:
 - For more information on the impact of phones on student learning and evidence-based recommendations for interfacing with technology, families are encouraged to visit the Centre for Humane Technology: For Students, Parents & Educators.

References:

Ministerial Order 014/2024
Education Act (SA 2012, c E-0.3)