



Cell Phone Policy

At Holy Spirit School, we recognize the role that technology can play in enhancing the academic development of students. Our school is resource and technology rich and students are provided with many opportunities daily to use technological devices to support their learning.

We also recognize that cell phones have become a big part of a student's life to communicate and access information on the go. We understand that outside of school hours, and off school property, parents like to keep in touch with their children for updates and safety purposes.

We also understand that personal devices such as cell phones, can be amazing learning tools. The staff at Holy Spirit want to promote this tool within the proper parameters and guidelines that respect the privacy and safety of all members in our school community, and as such we have created the following policy:

1. Cell phones can come to school with a student that has parental permission. However, the cell phone must be turned off and out of sight during the school day and while on school property. Students are to keep their cell phones in their backpacks, turned off.
2. Once the day has ended and the student is off school property they may turn their cell phones on as needed.
3. The school bus is an extension of the school day and the school property and cell phones are not permitted while riding the bus.
4. The school is not responsible for any lost, stolen or damaged cell phones or personal devices.

Exceptions to this Policy

Each teacher has the authority to allow the use of personal devices in the classroom as a learning tool, at their discretion. During these times, teachers will inform students that it is OK to use personal devices and they will set the parameters and expectations for the students as well as monitor appropriate use and guidelines. Teachers will communicate with students when these periods of time are and when they have ended.

Consequences for not following guidelines:

1. **First offense** - The personal device will be confiscated by the staff member and returned to the student at the end of the day.
2. **Second offense** - The personal device will be confiscated and turned in to the office. Parent will be called to meet with the principal and the device will be returned to the parent. The device will not be allowed at school for one week.
3. **Third offense** - The personal device will be confiscated, and the student will lose permission to bring the device to school for an extended period up to and including the remainder of the school year.

Note: The Administration team will decide the specific consequences based on the nature of the infraction and may also lift any suspension of privileges based on the student's demonstrated readiness to take responsibility for the device.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT:

As the **parent/guardian** of _____, I acknowledge and agree to the above expectations in allowing my child to bring an electronic device to Jean Vanier School.

Parent/Guardian Signature

As a **student** of Holy Spirit, I _____, acknowledge and agree to the above expectations in order to bring an electronic device to Holy Spirit School.

Student Signature

Please note that it is our goal to help develop responsible attitudes, respectful behaviors, and critical thinking skills with the students of Holy Spirit. We embrace the use of technology in your child's learning as well as understand how personal devices (cell phones) provide a level of safety and security for your families. To that end we require a signed agreement for any student to carry/bring an electronic device to Holy Spirit School. Your assistance and support in helping to develop 21st Century Learners is most appreciated.

Please return this form to school.