

École H.J. Cody High School Cell Phone Policy

As referenced in Section 31 of the EDUCATION ACT: A student, as a partner in education, has the responsibility to:

- (b) be ready to learn and actively engage in and diligently pursue the student's education
- (d) respect the rights of others in the school
- (e) refrain from, report and not tolerate bullying or bullying behaviour directed toward others in the school, whether or not it occurs within the school building, during the school day or by electronic means
- (f) comply with the rules of the school and the policies of the board
- (g) co-operate with everyone authorized by the board to provide education programs and other services
- (h) be accountable to the student's teachers and other school staff for the student's conduct

Cell Phones

Grade 9

Cell phones should remain at home or in school lockers during class time. Students will have an opportunity to check their phones in between classes, lunch, and after school. Should a parent or guardian need to contact a student during class time, please call the office and we will be sure to convey the message to your child.

Grade 10-12

Cell phones should remain in school lockers or bags, off or in silent mode, during class time. Students will have an opportunity to check their phones in between classes, lunch, and after school. Should a parent or guardian need to contact a student during class time, please call the office and we will be sure to convey the message to your child.

As a technology forward school, HJ Cody wants to help to teach and promote appropriate digital citizenship. Removing cell phone use during class will help students stay more present and engaged in their learning. The intent of this policy is to support them in their academic success, removing a major distraction, and promoting face to face social interaction and connection.

Teachers, Educational Assistants, and Admin have repeatedly observed that a cell phone on a desk, even when in use as a research tool, still provides a distraction. When cell phones light up, ding or buzz, concentration is lost and the mind needs to refocus. The minds of the best of students wander away. Studies have shown that the brain can take up to 15 minutes to re-engage after responding to cell phone distraction.

We ask that students bring a chromebook or laptop with them to each of their classes to use as a learning tool.

All students must adhere to the following policy:

1. Cell phone use is prohibited during class time including Flex and Connect.
 - Gr. 9: cell phones must be powered down and stored in lockers.
 - Gr. 10-12: cell phones must be on silent or powered down and stored in bags or lockers.
2. Cell phones may be used before and after school, during lunch, and during breaks from classes.
3. Cell phones will not be used for music devices in the classroom unless students have a diagnosed accommodation.

Students who are in violation of this policy:

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- First offense - cell phone will be placed on the staff member's desk for the remainder of class.
 - Teachers must add this to log entries. Communication will go home.
- Second offense - the item will be confiscated by the staff member and brought to administration. The cell phone will be released to the student at the end of the day. Communication will go home.
 - Admin will add this to log entries.
- Third offense - the item will be confiscated by the staff member and brought to administration. Parents must come into the school to pick up the cell phone.
 - Admin will add this to log entries.

* If a student refuses to give up their phone to a staff member, the cell phone will be confiscated for the remainder of the school day and the student will serve an in-school suspension for defiance.

*HJC School and Staff are not responsible for the loss or damage of student cell phones. Students have the option to store them in their lockers.