



Use of Smart Phones at École Marie-Anne-Gaboury



Per the [ministerial directive](#) of August 15th, 2024, and [LRSD policy GBEF/JICJ](#), École Marie-Anne-Gaboury (MAG) has adopted the following policy for smart phones and related technology as of November 1, 2024.

Use of devices at school:

Students in all grades (K-8) are not permitted to use cell phones during school hours, from 8:54 a.m. to 3:37 p.m.

Cell phones are not permitted at any time in changerooms or washrooms, or by students during a lockdown.

For Grade 7/8 students commuting to/from MAG from Practical Arts classes at Darwin, cell phones can be carried in the event they are needed for emergency contact purposes.

When using school laptops and iPads, students and staff will follow [Policy IJNDC](#) for guidelines related to the respectful use of the Internet, Information Systems and taking pictures or videos only with the consent of others.

Storage of cell phones during school hours:

Should students choose to bring their devices to school, they will be stored in their locker throughout the school day. The school and LRSD are not responsible for any loss, damage or theft of personal student items and recommend that they not be brought to school.

Enforcement of the policy:

If a student is using their phone during school hours, a staff member will ensure the phone is brought to the school office for the student to retrieve at the end of the day. If the problem should reoccur, the phone will be kept at the office until a family member is able to arrange pickup of the device. Additional infractions will lead to a meeting with guardians and/or a contract ensuring the appropriate use of personal devices during school hours.

Responsibilities of School Personnel:

School staff will model positive and responsible use of technology during school hours. Personal phones will only be used for urgent communication amongst staff or to perform work duties when a desktop device is not available.

When needed, office staff will assist students in using the office phone to contact family members.

A Commitment to Education About Responsible Use:

Our team recognizes that a provincial cell phone ban in K-8 schools does not absolve us of the responsibility to address the influence of current technologies on the lives of our students. We commit to lessons around the responsible use of personal devices, as well as [strategic priority 3.3](#) of LRSD's *Multi-Year Strategic Plan*, to teach an Information Literacy continuum for all students that includes a focus on discerning safe and healthy behaviours when using and creating information, especially online.