

Victor H. L. Wyatt School Cell Phone Policy

The following school cell phone/device policy has been established in accordance with LRSD <u>Policy IJNDC – Internet and</u> Information Systems Use: Staff and Students and Manitoba Government's new ministerial guidelines on cell phone use.

Purpose: To create safe and healthy learning environments that enhance student focus and engagement, develop positive social interactions, and promote student well-being without the distractions of cell phones.

Policy Overview:

Cell Phone Usage

- Cell phone use is <u>not permitted</u> during school hours (8:47 a.m. 3:30 p.m.), including in washrooms and change rooms.
- Students are to leave phones at home or store them safely and out of sight if brought to school.

Storage

- Students are responsible for securing cell phones in their designated areas (ex. lockers, classroom cubbies, backpacks).
- Please note the school is not responsible for lost, damaged, or stolen phones and the school will assume no responsibility or cost associated with cell phones/devices.

Exceptions

- In special circumstances, such as medical needs or as a communication device, cell phones may be used upon approval by school administration.
- Students attending IA/HEIA at Victor H. L. Wyatt, who are permitted to have a cell phone with them, must keep their device out of sight while in class.

Enforcement

• Staff will monitor students' appropriate use of cell phones. If a cell phone is being used at an inappropriate time, teachers will ask for it to be put away. If this becomes a reoccurring problem, further steps will be taken, including communication with parents/caregivers when necessary.

Communication

- If information needs to be shared with a student during the school day, families are welcome to phone the office.
- If emergency situations arise please contact the school office to reach your child 204-255-7880.

Education

• School staff are committed to modeling appropriate cell phone use, educating students on responsible and ethical usage and promoting safe, healthy online behaviour.

Effective Date: November 1, 2024