CELL PHONE USE

Administrative Procedure Cross Reference: AP 203 Digital Citizenship

The Swan Valley School Division is committed to providing an engaging and safe learning environment where the potentially harmful impacts of online platforms and cell phone use is minimized. To support this positive environment, the following personal device or cell phone guidelines will be in place.

Kindergarten to Grade 8 students*:* banned from using cell phones during school hours, inclusive of breaks and lunch.

Grade 9 to 12 students: banned from cell phone use during class time on campus and off campus but are permitted to responsible use of cell phones during break times and lunch.

Northern Lights Institute of Trades and Technology (NITT) students: banned from cell phone use during class time on campus and off campus but are permitted to responsible use of cell phones during break times and lunch.

Teachers may direct Grade 9 to 12 students or NITT students to use cell phones for educational purposes. Swan Valley School Division is committed to equitable access to all learning activities by students, therefore, Divisional I.C.T. devices will always be the first option provided to students.

Students with medical or diverse learning needs may qualify for exceptions to the Administrative Procedure, however a Student Specific Plan will need to be created to accompany such an exception.

Staff are expected to use cell phones in a fashion that supports engaging learning environments and safe schools.

The Division encourages and supports school initiatives, practices and programs directed to creating digitally literate students that use cell phones in a fashion that supports their safety, well-being, and learning. The Division will cooperate with Manitoba Education's guidance in terms of programming information for schools and legislation around cell phone use. The Division will stay current in practice and programming through reviewing publications from organizations such as the Manitoba Association of Education Technology Leaders and the Canadian Centre for Child Protection.