



# Electronic Device Policy Update

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*Principal*

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The following updates to the Sandy Lake Academy (hereafter “the school”) personal electronic device policy have been constructed based upon certain educational values that are central to the learning environment of the school.

## **Educational Values**

- The school is to be a place where influences on students are carefully guarded and monitored to ensure a positive and safe Christian learning environment
- School hours and the school environment are designed to ensure that students can reach their full spiritual, academic, social, emotional, and physical potential free from any distractions or competing influences that work against the mission and values of the school

Current realities of our program have also informed the development of these updated policies.

## **Current Realities**

- The school is in possession of sufficient electronic devices to support the curricular and extra-curricular activities of our students
- The use of smartphones have proven to be overwhelmingly detrimental to the academic and social flourishing of our students
- Many parents have expressed their desire to see a “no smartphone” policy at the school

With these educational values and the current realities of our program in mind, please note the following updates to our electronic device policy:

- No student smartphones during the school hours of 8:00 AM to 4:00 PM Monday to Thursday and 8:00 AM to 12:30 PM on Friday, both inside and outside. Any student's use of a smartphone is prohibited. Students caught accessing their smartphones during school hours will have the device confiscated for one week. A second offence will result in the confiscation of the device for one month. Parents may opt to take the device home instead of leaving the device secured in the school office. A third offence will result in suspension.
- Students are permitted to bring their own personal electronic device to school if it is a laptop, tablet, or Chromebook. Any misuse of the device will require that the device be placed under IT management by the school for the student to retain permission for the use of the device on campus. Misuse entails any use not explicitly permitted by the supervising teacher including, but not limited to, non-educational videos, gaming, etc. Multiple instances of device of misuse will result in the loss of privilege for the student to use a personal device for the duration of the school year.
- Students will access designated devices that are the property of the school for such activities as, but not limited to, classroom assignments, yearbook and newsletter photos, A/V projects, and club/event activities.