



Westsyde Elementary School

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Personal Digital Devices Guidelines/Expectations

Background

As of July 1, 2024, the Kamloops-Thompson School District revised the District's student code of conduct ([Administrative Procedure 350](#)) to include the following language as required by [Ministerial Order M89](#):

Comply with restrictions on personal digital device use at school to promote online safety and focused learning environments by demonstrating:

- *use of personal digital devices for instructional purposes and digital literacy development;*
- *use of personal digital devices that is appropriate to a student's age and developmental stage;*
- *use personal digital devices for accessibility and accommodation needs, including medical and health needs;*
- *use personal digital devices to support equitable access to learning outcomes.*

Westsyde Elementary School's personal digital devices expectations/policy is guided by the above language to promote online safety and focused learning environments for all students. In addition, there is no need for students to rely on using their personal digital devices as an instructional tool.

Expectations

In individually unique cases, students are permitted to use personal digital devices at all times:

When the student requires the use of their personal digital device to support their medical needs as outlined in their Competency Based Individual Education Plan or confirmed by their physician.

When the student requires the use of their personal digital device to support their accessibility and instructional accommodation needs as outlined in their Competency Based Individual Education Plan, their Service Plan or their Annual Instruction Plan.

During instructional time (learning environments):

Student use of their personal digital device is permitted for instructional purposes based on teacher discretion in the classroom only. Use of personal digital devices will not be permitted in the hallways, common areas, washrooms, or the gym.

During non-instructional time:

Student use of their personal digital device is not permitted during recess and lunch breaks.

Student use of their personal digital device is not permitted before school (8:00-8:30 AM) or after school (2:39-3:15 PM) on school grounds unless given permission from school staff for purposes of communication.

Any use of personal digital devices must comply with [Administrative Procedure 145: Use of Personal Electronics](#)

Student behaviour that contravenes these guidelines will be addressed using [Administrative Procedure 350: Student Code of Conduct](#) and [Administrative Procedure 355: Student Discipline](#).

What is Considered a Personal Digital Device?

- Cell phones
- Smart watches
- Tablets/ipads
- Computers
- Earbuds/Headphones
- Music players
- Portable gaming devices