

Diefenbaker Personal Technology Policy

Diefenbaker staff understand that the advancement of personal technology devices can be a positive development for the education and independence of our students. Diefenbaker staff respect family decisions around the use of cellular technology outside of school hours and school events. If students bring Personal Technology Devices (phones, tablets, iPods, etc.) to school do so at their own risk, as we cannot be responsible for loss or damage to them.

Within the school from 8:30am-2:45pm, and at school events, **the student use of personal technology devices (cell phones, tablets, iPods, etc.) will not be permitted. This includes recess and lunch breaks, and when student is on a field trip or at a school event.** If parents need to send a message to their son or daughter while their child is at school, they are able to phone the office (604-668-6639) and the message will be passed along to the student. If a student needs to call home, the student can call using the office phone. It is expected that if a student brings a phone or device to school, it is turned off and kept in the student's backpack during school hours. If a teacher decides to ask students to "Bring Your Own Device" to school to be used for educational purposes, parents will need to give permission and complete a BYOD form.

There are several reasons for this policy.

1. Diefenbaker Elementary has landline phones available, and with permission, students may use these phones when necessary.
2. The ease of contact to parents that cell phones provide the students inhibits the developing ability of children to handle small frustrations for short periods of time.
3. Use of personal technology devices during class time by students, staff, and parents conflicts with our Social Responsibility guidelines of being respectful and responsible in our work / learning environment. Making phone calls, texting, or going online on a device when not for educational purposes can be a disturbance to classrooms and an interruption to learning.
4. Student use of personal technology devices (cell phones, tablets, iPods) during the recess and lunch time breaks cannot be monitored by staff.
5. Personal technology devices have a variety of features that can infringe on others rights of privacy, such as video and still photo capabilities, and recording capabilities.

Consequences for Contravening These Statements

- 1) First Offense: The device will be confiscated and taken to the office until the end of the day.
- 2) Second Offense: The device will be confiscated until the end of the day and the administration or the child's teacher will contact a parent.
- 3) Third Offense: The device will be confiscated and kept at the office until a parent or guardian comes to the school to retrieve it.
- 4) Fourth (and any subsequent offense): Will be dealt with by the family and the administration on a case-by-case basis.