

ALBERTA CONFERENCE OF  
SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTISTS

# OFFICE OF EDUCATION

CELL PHONE POLICY

EFFECTIVE  
SEPTEMBER 1, 2024



Prepared as  
mandated by  
Alberta Education

**Purpose:** To create a focused and distraction-free learning environment, while ensuring the safety and well-being of all students.

**Scope:** This policy applies to all students within the Alberta Conference school system.

**Policy:**

- **General Use:**

- All personal mobile devices, including cell phones, tablets, smartwatches, and headphones, must be kept on silent or powered off and stored out of view during instructional time.
- Devices may be used during designated break times, such as recess and lunch periods.

- **Exceptions:**

- Students with documented health needs that require the use of mobile devices (e.g., monitoring blood sugar levels) are permitted to use their devices as necessary. Documentation from the appropriate authority **MUST** be provided.
- Teachers may allow limited use of mobile devices for specific educational purposes during class time, as determined by a principal or equivalent.

- **Social Media:**

- Social media refers to the means of interactions among people in which they create, share, and/or exchange information and ideas in virtual communities and networks that are not specifically utilized for educator directed experiences.
- Access to social media sites on school internet networks will be restricted during school hours to minimize distractions and protect student mental health as determined by the principal or equivalent as outlined in the Education Act.

- **Enforcement:**

- Violations of this policy will be addressed through a progressive disciplinary approach:
  - First Violation: Verbal warning and reminder of the policy.
  - Second Violation: Confiscation of the device for the remainder of the school day and notification to parents/guardians.
  - Third Violation: Confiscation of the device, meeting with parents/guardians, and potential further disciplinary action as deemed appropriate by school administration.
- It is the responsibility of the school's administration, staff, parents and students to ensure compliance with this policy

- **Communication:**

- This policy will be communicated to all students, parents/guardians, and staff at the beginning of each school year and throughout the year as local context requires.
- This policy will be included in the school handbook and website.
- This policy may be modified during the school year to reflect alignment with provincial regulations.

- **Review and Feedback:**

- The policy will be reviewed annually to ensure its effectiveness and to incorporate feedback from the school community.