



August 29, 2025

Dear Queen Mary Parents/Guardians,

As we prepare for the upcoming school year, we would like to remind families of the restricted access to personal digital devices (PDD) in schools. A PDD is any personal electronic device that can be used to communicate or access the Internet, such as a cell phone or a tablet.

As you are aware, across all NVSD elementary schools, there is no student access to or use of PDD at any time on the school campus during the school day. This is essentially a “bell-to-bell” restriction from the beginning of school to the end of the day. Parents are reminded that elementary students are always under direct supervision and that the school will communicate with home for emergent needs if they arise.

The following guidelines are in place in NVSD, as communicated in all schools’ Codes of Conduct.

*All students in the school community are expected to leave personal digital devices at home, in their bag/backpack, and/or in their locker during instructional time. Allowances may be made by the staff for instructional purposes, digital literacy, appropriate use based on age and developmental stage, accommodation within a student's Individualized Education Plan, accessibility, medical and health needs, and/or equitable support for learning outcomes.*

We appreciate everyone’s support and cooperation with the personal digital device guidelines that were introduced in September 2024. “**Devices off, learning on**,” captures the essence of what NVSD is working toward: limiting unnecessary distractions to create a space where students can focus on their learning. Your role in reinforcing this message at home is invaluable, and we are grateful for your partnership in helping your child(ren) understand the importance of these guidelines.

As you work with your child(ren) to foster healthy digital habits, you may find the following resources helpful:

- [Cell phone restrictions in schools](#) (published by the Government of British Columbia)
- [Digital media: Promoting healthy screen use in school-aged children and adolescents](#) (published by the Canadian Paediatric Society)
- [Online safety - Province of British Columbia \(gov.bc.ca\)](#)
- [Welcome to MediaSmarts | MediaSmarts](#)

Talk to your child’s classroom teacher or contact me if needing any additional support in helping children follow these guidelines. Thank you for your support, contributing to an environment dedicated to focused, engaged, and distraction-free learning.

Sincerely,

Jennifer Wilson  
Principal, Queen Mary Community Elementary  
[jwilson@sd44.ca](mailto:jwilson@sd44.ca)