



Policy for Cell Phones and Electronic Devices at Braemar Elementary School

It is now common for students to carry cell phones, iPods, and other electronic devices to school. We recognize that for some families a phone is important for communication between students and parents/caregivers before and after school. However, we are finding that cell phones can be a source of disruption in the classroom, a safety concern on the playground and a cause for social difficulties, especially amongst older children. While students can carry cell phones to school, we ask that parents support our efforts for appropriate use by adhering to the following guidelines:

- Do not allow your child to carry a cell phone to school unless it is necessary for before and after school student/parent communication.
- Cell phones at school must be turned off and kept in zipped backpacks during 8:50 AM to 3:00 PM. Students may not use cell phones in classrooms, hallways, or on the playground during the school day. Cell phones can only be used under staff supervision or outside of our building and outside of school hours.
- The school office phone is available during the day if it is necessary for parents to call in or students to call out.
- Cell phones are often equipped with cameras. In order to satisfy legal requirements around the protection of privacy, photography at school is allowed only for school purposes and with the permission of a staff member. Permitted photos can only be used with parental consent.
- The school takes no responsibility for loss or damage to cell phones, iPods and any other electronic device. Parents send cell phones to school at their own risk.
- In order to encourage positive social interaction, iPods and other music players should not be used on the playground during recess and lunch.
- Since personal music devices can generate significant sound levels in headphones, we recommend that you advise your child of the hearing damage that may occur when high volumes are used.

We sincerely appreciate your attention to these points.