



SOUTHRIDGE.
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STUDENT CELL PHONE AND WI-FI ENABLED DEVICE POLICY, SENIOR SCHOOL

INTRODUCTION & GENERAL PRINCIPLE

Southridge School promotes healthy and responsible decision making and encourages students to maintain a reputable digital footprint, while also attempting to maximize the educational benefit of powerful new technological devices.

Limitations placed on these devices are done to maintain the integrity of the learning environment, protect the privacy of the individual and to maximize the benefits of direct social interaction among students.

Access to technology for educational purposes is provided to students by means of an extensive and comprehensive one-to-one laptop program in Grades 8 – 12. All necessary information is provided by the teacher and Southridge fosters a culture of academic collaboration among its students. No advantage is obtained using a personal device. If students wish to use personal technological devices in the classroom, they are required to ask the permission of the teacher. For example, students may ask permission to use their phones to photograph a diagram which a teacher has drawn on the whiteboard.

CELL PHONES & WI-FI ENABLED DEVICES

- Teachers may request students to turn off their cell phone or wi-fi enabled devices, such as prior to tests and examinations, and leave them in a bin at the front of the classroom.
- Students are not permitted to use their cell phone or wi-fi enabled devices to access the school network. This would increase the traffic to our wireless system and inhibit the functionality of the laptop program and, ultimately, the productivity of our school and workplace environment.
- Students who use cell phone or wi-fi enabled devices irresponsibly may have them confiscated or will not be permitted on the Southridge campus.



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- Southridge acknowledges that the potential exists for students to use cell phones in an inappropriate manner. The use of cell phones or wi-fi enabled devices that are used for cheating, taking inappropriate pictures/videos, cyber bullying (e.g. spreading rumors, uttering threats, or causing emotional harm to others) and/or sexting (the sending of sexually explicit messages or images by cell phone) will be treated as a violation of the Student Code of Ethics and will result in consequences connected to this policy. Depending on the severity of the situation disciplinary action could include expulsion.

Students who wish to make a phone call on a personal device may do so:

- Outside of class time.
- In the breezeway outside the Senior School gymnasium.
- Outside the school building.

Students who wish to send a text during school hours are expect to:

- Do so before or after class time, during breaks, lunch hour and/or after school.
- Demonstrate courtesy and respect for others when using their phones for texting. For instance, texting while walking in a high traffic area of the building is strongly discouraged.

Cell phones are not a requirement at Southridge School and there is no academic advantage to having one. Students who wish to contact their parents during the day have access to the student phone outside the Senior School Physical Education offices. Parents who wish to speak to their children during the day can leave a message with the receptionist.

Students who bring cell phones and other wi-fi enabled devices to school do so at their own risk. Southridge is not responsible for misplaced, lost or stolen cell phones or wi-fi enabled devices. Nonetheless, Division Coordinators will do their best to support students in locating lost items.