

ISI Phone-Free Policy

Implementing a phone-free policy leads to increased student engagement during class, meaningful connections with peers, higher test scores, fewer disciplinary incidents, reduction in cyberbullying, and improved school culture and community.

Phones are a disruption to the school day. They disrupt focus, learning and engagement. They also create challenges such as cyberbullying, privacy violations, and mental health concerns for students.

DEVICE STORAGE DURING THE SCHOOL DAY

- Our Primary Program students (grades K-6) are asked to keep their devices turned off and put away in their backpacks. This includes smart watches.
- Our MYP students (grades 7-10) turn in their phones at the beginning of the school day, which are then secured in a locked drawer until the end of the school day. Students are also not allowed to use bluetooth headphones, smartwatches, or other personal devices without prior consent from their homeroom teachers.
(Research indicates that carrying a cell phone in a backpack or on your person is not effective.)

PARENT/GUARDIAN COMMUNICATION

If parents or guardians need to communicate with students during the school day, the office phone is always available to call.

CONSEQUENCES

If a student is found using a phone and refuses to hand it in, parents will be contacted and asked to pick up their child from school. A follow-up meeting with the parents will be required to create a plan moving forward.

EXCEPTIONS

Exceptions may be made in the event of medical necessities, which require the use of the device to manage the condition. Any exceptions made are specific, and use is still prohibited outside of the intended exception. We reserve the right to request documentation to support exemptions.