



Student Use of Personal Electronic Devices (PED) Policy 2026-2027

As we navigate the school year, we want to share an important provincial update regarding the use of personal devices at school. In line with New Brunswick's updated policy, our overall goal at DMS remains clear: protect learning time, reduce unnecessary distractions, and help our students stay present and connected with those around them.

DMS has grounded our expectations around personal electronic devices in [policy-311.pdf](#) (revised) and [Microsoft Word - Policy 902 26-08-24 EN](#). Click on the links provided to learn more.

Personal Electronic Device (PED): Any mobile or portable electronic device that can be used for consuming or producing digital content, including laptops or netbooks, tablets (e.g., iPad, Android, iPod Touch), Bluetooth ear buds, smart watches, or cell phones.

DMS Personal Electronic Device Access Policy:

- **When the Expectation Begins & Ends:** At DMS, this expectation begins the moment students arrive on school property (whether dropped off, walking, or arriving by bus) and continues until the dismissal bell at 2:45pm.
- **Full-Day "Silent & Away":** Students may still bring personal devices to school, but they must be switched to silent or off and stored in their locker for the full school day, including breaks, transition times, and lunch period.
- **Applies to More Than Cellphones:** The updated provincial expectations apply to all personal mobile technology, including smartwatches, wireless earbuds, tablets, laptops, and portable gaming devices.
- **Staying in Touch:** If a student needs to contact home during the day, they can continue to use the phone at the Main Office any time with permission from their teacher using a Hall Pass. Parents/guardians who need to reach their child can also contact the Main Office directly.
- **Device Responsibility:** Please keep in mind that the school is not responsible for lost, damaged, or stolen personal devices brought to school.
- **Exceptions:** Students who require electronic devices for medical purposes must have this documented on their personalized Health Plan (Policy 704). All staff will be made aware of students who have medical accommodations.

Every child deserves a distraction-free learning environment that supports their well-being, and that includes balancing how devices and screens fit into their day. These changes support healthy habits and protect instructional time.

Accountability:

Violation of the PED Agreement for the use of all personal electronic devices will be treated as Failure to Comply with the School Code of Conduct.

Consequences for Violation:

- **1st Violation** – The adult reviews the PED Expectations and asks the student to take their PED to the Main Office for the remainder of the day. The violation is given to the student, parental notification by teacher, violation recorded on the DMS PED Violation Tracking form. The student is responsible for picking up their PED from the Main Office at dismissal at 2:45pm (they will sign off to document that their PED was returned to them).
- **2nd Violation** – Violation is given to the student and is recorded on the DMS PED Violation Tracking form. The teacher asks the student to take their PED to the Main Office for the remainder of the day. Admin meets with the student and contacts home to review the DMS PED Policy. Student is responsible for picking up their PED from the office at dismissal (they will sign off to document that their PED was returned to them). Depending on the time of the violation the student will serve a lunch detention with admin that day or the following day.
- **3rd Violation** – Violation is recorded on the DMS PED Violation Tracking form. The teacher asks the student to take their PED to the Main Office for the remainder of the day. Office referral (document incident in PS – Cell Phone Usage, Failure to Comply with the School Code of Conduct), parental notification by Admin. Admin meets with the student and contacts home to inform them of their third violation resulting in a suspension. Student is responsible for picking up their PED from the Main Office when they are picked up and signed out (they will sign off to document that their PED was returned to them). **If their PED is visible or in use, they will be suspended for the remainder of the day. If the parent/guardian is unable to arrange for pick up, the suspension will be the following day.**

*Repeat incidents of Defiance or Refusal to Comply with the School Code of Conduct (related to cell phone usage) will result in a referral to the office and is subject to consequences – out of school suspension (number of days will be dependent on the number of violations), or additional disciplinary action deemed appropriate by school administration will occur.

Non-Compliance with Staff Directions:

If a student is found in violation of the Personal Electronic Device (PED) Policy and is directed to bring their device to the Main Office but refuses to comply, the incident will be referred to an administrator.

An administrator will meet with the student to review the expectations and provide an opportunity for the student to comply. If the student continues to refuse, the student's parent/guardian will be contacted and involved in the conversation.

Continued refusal to follow staff or administrative direction will be considered defiance and may result in progressive disciplinary consequences, including suspension. The level of response will be determined by the nature and severity of the incident and in accordance with school and district expectations.

Policy Review:

This Policy will be reviewed periodically to ensure its effectiveness and relevance to the evolving needs of the school community.

Acknowledgement:

By enrolling in the school, students, parents/guardians acknowledge receipt and understanding of the PED Policy, therefore agreeing to comply with its provisions and understand that use of PED at school is governed by Policy 311 RESPONSIBLE USE OF DIGITAL TECHNOLOGY and Policy 902 (Screen Time and Personal Mobile Device Use in Licensed Early Learning and Child Care Facilities).