



Strathcona Christian Academy Elementary School

Personal Mobile Device Plan

2024-25



Background

The ownership and use of a personal mobile device (PMD) has grown exponentially over the past decade. While personal devices offer potential opportunities for communication, information access and enhanced opportunities for instruction, personal mobile devices can also be a source of distraction that can negatively impact children's and student's mental health, engagement and learning. Regulated use of personal mobile devices in schools and throughout the Division is required to ensure the promotion of welcoming, caring, respectful and safe learning and working environments. Appropriate use of personal mobile devices contributes to the safety and security of students and staff, minimizes risk to personal wellbeing and disruption to instruction, and protects personal privacy and academic integrity.

Personal mobile device (PMD) is defined as any personal electronic device that can be used to communicate with or access the internet, such as a cellphone, tablet, laptop or smartwatch.

Use of PMDs

Elementary aged students **shall not** access a PMD at school unless documentation is provided to the principal or designate that confirms the use is for a diagnosed health or medical condition, or an identified special learning need. Students will not have access to their PMD during any break periods – for example, recess, class breaks and lunch breaks.

Storage of PMDs

At SCA Elementary School, all devices brought to school are to be stored in students backpacks, and either powered off or in silent mode.

We recommend students leave PMDs at home. Students who choose to bring PMDs to school do so at their own risk. The security and storage of these devices is the sole responsibility of the owner or user and SCA Elementary School and Elk Island Public Schools assumes no responsibility for the safety, security, loss, repair or replacement of the PMD.

Progressive Discipline

At SCA Elementary School, students will be held accountable for their behaviour and conduct as outlined in [AP 350: Student Code of Conduct](#). If a student uses their personal mobile device when not permitted to do so, schools will follow disciplinary practices and parents/guardians will be notified as outline below.

	Disciplinary Practice
First Infraction	Verbal reminder of the school policy.
Second Infraction	Device will be confiscated and stored in the office for the rest of the school day. Students may collect their device after school.
Subsequent Infractions	Device will be confiscated and stored in the office. A meeting with parents will be scheduled to develop a plan moving forward. Consequences may be, but are not limited to, storing device in the office, leaving the device at home, or suspension.

The principal or teacher will consider individual circumstances and may move further down the disciplinary practice as required.

Parent/Caregiver Communication with Students

Parents are asked to refrain from contacting their child/student on their PMD during the school day. Parents can contact the school office at 780-449-2787 who can facilitate contact with their child/student during the school day, if needed.