



Dominion Road School

Next review: Term 4 2025

Cellphones and Other Personal Digital Devices

At Dominion Road School, our approach to cellphones and other personal digital devices supports student engagement and achievement. Personal digital devices include cellphones, which we manage according to government regulations, and other devices such as laptops, tablets, and smartwatches. Devices that are part of a school-approved **Bring Your Own Device (BYOD)** programme have separate conditions for use.

Dominion Road School does not recommend that students bring personal digital devices to school. These are not necessary to have during the day. We understand that some parents like their children to have a device to communicate with them after school, but these must be handed in to the school office during school hours.

Cellphone regulations

To comply with government regulations, we ensure students do not use cellphones during school hours, including break times. Parents/Caregivers can request an exemption from the school if required. We allow exemptions for students to use cellphones if they are required for:

- a specific educational purpose approved by a teacher
- health needs (e.g. to monitor insulin levels)
- disability or learning support needs
- a special circumstance approved by the principal.

There may be times when a student needs to access a personal device. However, this is an exception and a parent or caregiver must apply in writing to the principal for the exception to be considered. Any exceptions will be noted on our student management system.

If a parent or caregiver needs to contact their child during school hours, they should call the office.

Rules about cellphones and other personal digital devices made by the board are a **school bylaw**. The board consults with the school community when making or amending bylaws. We discuss school rules about personal digital devices at the beginning of the year, and throughout the year as needed.

Device requirements at school

The school promotes safe and responsible use of digital technology. Students are required to comply with our digital technology policies and procedures if devices are brought to school. See **Digital Technology and Online Safety**.

If students bring personal digital devices (including cellphones) to school, the following requirements apply:

- Personal digital devices may not be taken on EOTC events. Students must hand in their personal device to the office at the beginning of the day, and can collect the device at the end of the day. It is the student's responsibility to collect their device from the school office.

Inappropriate use

Inappropriate use of a personal digital device may include:

- using a device when not allowed
- any sort of bullying, including [▶ online bullying](#)
- sending or sharing inappropriate content
- taking photos or videos of other people without their permission.

Inappropriate use of a personal digital device is managed according to the relevant school policy or procedure:

- **Behaviour Management**
- **Responding to Digital Incidents**
- **Surrender and Retention of Personal Digital Devices**

If a student is observed using a personal digital device, the student must hand it to a staff member immediately when asked. If possible, students should lock their device before handing it to staff. The device will be kept in the office. A parent or guardian must come to school to collect the device if it has been used at school when not permitted.

The principal assures the board that the school does not allow students to use cellphones during school hours, including break times, unless students have been granted an exemption. See [Self-Review and Board Assurances](#).

Related topics

- [Digital Technology and Online Safety](#)
- [Personal Property and Insurance](#)
- [Bullying](#)
- [Public Sharing of Personal Information](#)
- [Recording Photos, Video, and Sound](#)
- [EOTC Consent](#)

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