



Hill-Murray School

The Catholic Benedictine Prep School

CELL PHONE/ELECTRONIC DEVICE USE 2025-2026

As part of Hill-Murray's commitment to providing students with the best learning environment, **phones, and smartwatches are not to be used during the school day.** Phones are required to be locked in a Yondr pouch during the academic school day. The purpose of this policy is to limit distractions and improve overall student engagement, mental health, and well-being. Every student will be assigned a personal Yondr Pouch. While the Yondr Pouch is school property, it is each student's responsibility to bring their pouch with them to school every day and keep it in good working condition. Students are not allowed to leave their phones in their car during the school day. Students who do not own a phone will still carry a pouch. Parents must contact the Office of Student Life to verify that their student does not own a phone.

DAILY PROCESS

When students **arrive at their first class of the day**, they will:

1. Turn their phone on airplane mode or power off.
2. Place their phone inside their pouch and secure it in the presence of their teacher.
3. Store their pouch in their backpack for the day.

At **the end of the day**, they will:

1. Unlock their pouch, remove their phone, relock the Yondr pouch, and put their pouch in their backpack.
2. Students must bring their pouch to school with them each day.

Students arriving late or leaving early will lock/unlock their phones from their Yondr pouch either the Main Entry or the Office of Student Life.

VIOLATIONS

Pouch Damage / Lost Pouch / Use of Phone or Smartwatch During School

- **Pouch Damage:** If a student damages their pouch, a faculty/staff member will collect the student's pouch/phone and turn it into the Office of Student Life. The student is charged \$30 for a replacement pouch. Upon a second pouch being damaged, the student is

charged \$50 for a replacement pouch. Examples of pouch damage include: Bent pin, ripped fabric, deep scratches on the locked exterior and/or green ring, intentional pen marks on the inside of the pouch, pin and button not fully recessing due to pin damage, the pouch is unable to function properly due to damage. Deliberately damaging a pouch will result in detention and/or a parent meeting.

- **Forgotten/Lost pouch:** If a student forgets their pouch, their phone will be collected and stored in the Office of Student Life. The student should visit the Office of Student Life for a temporary pass to show teachers who ask for a Yondr Pouch check. The phone can be picked up in the Office of Student Life at the end of the day. If a student consistently forgets their pouch, it is considered lost. There is a \$30 replacement fee for the first lost or damaged pouch and \$50 for any consecutive losses.
- **Use of Phone/Smartwatch during the school day:** For a first offense, the cell phone/smartwatch will be collected and brought to the Office of Student Life. The student can retrieve the items at the end of the day. Upon a second offense, the cell phone/smartwatch must be turned in at the Office of Student Life first thing in the morning for five consecutive school days, and parents will be notified. Students will keep their pouch with them in case there is a pouch check during the day.
- Further violations will result in a parent meeting.