

*Source: All Saints Student Handbook pg 25*

### **Guidelines for the Use of Cell Phones and Other Personal Electronic Devices**

At All Saints, we believe in providing students with the best academic experience possible. We also recognize that the use of technology has many educational benefits. However, as new technologies continue to expand, they also bring new challenges to maintaining a safe, caring and orderly learning environment. The advantages of technology need to be supported with the responsible use of that technology.

Recent research has shown that removing cell phones from K-12 classrooms has resulted in fewer distractions, decreased cyberbullying, increased student engagement, and reduced stress levels.

To that end, and in keeping with the Ministry of Education directive regarding cell phones, All Saints HS has implemented the following cell phone practices to support student learning and mental health:

Grade 7 & 8 students are expected to lock their personal electronic devices in their lockers during instructional time and in between classes; students may access their cell phones during lunch time.

Students in grades 9-12 must have their cell phones turned off and out of sight during instructional time. It is recommended that students leave their cell phones in their lockers in lieu of keeping them on their person.

If a student is found to be using their cell phone in class, the cell phone must be placed in the area designated by the teacher.

Students may be granted permission to access their cell phone for the following limited reasons:

- a) for educational purposes, as directed by an educator;
- b) for health and medical purposes; after consultation with an administrator,
- c) to support special education needs, after consultation with an administrator

Failure to comply with the above expectations will result in the following:

- Repeated incident: The device will be sent to the Main Office and the student will pick it up at the end of the day. A notification email will be sent to the parent/guardian.
- A repeated issue of non-compliance: The device will be sent to the Main Office

- and a parent will be called to pick up the device.
- Ongoing issues of non-compliance: progressive discipline/additional device restrictions will be applied

The use of personal electronic devices should reflect expectations found in the Safe Schools Code of Conduct. The use of laser pointers, and the unauthorized use of cameras, and any other electronic device that could compromise personal and/or school safety or security are strictly prohibited from use in the school building.