



Personal Electronics (Cell Phone) Policy

Banning Lewis Prep Academy is committed to maintaining a safe, focused, and respectful learning environment that promotes academic engagement, positive relationships, and student well-being. Research and school experience demonstrate that unrestricted cell phone use during the school day disrupts instruction, contributes to behavioral issues, and negatively impacts learning. This policy establishes clear expectations for the use of cell phones and personal electronic devices.

Definition of Devices

This policy applies to all personal electronic communication devices, including but not limited to:

- Cell phones
- Smart watches with messaging or calling capability
- Tablets/laptops not issued or approved by the school
- Wireless earbuds or headphones
- Meta/AI/video glasses

General Policy

- Cell phones and personal electronic devices are not permitted to be used during the instructional day.
- Devices must be powered off and stored out of sight (e.g., backpack or locker if applicable) from arrival until dismissal.
- Devices may not be visible or used during: class time, passing periods, lunch, assemblies, study halls, Stallion Time, or any school-sponsored activity during the school day unless explicitly permitted by administration.
- Permitted Use

Cell phones or personal devices may only be used under the following circumstances:

1. Medical or Health Needs – As documented through the school nurse or administration.
2. Emergency Situations – As determined by school administration.
3. After-School Hours – After official dismissal and outside of school day-sponsored events unless otherwise restricted.

Prohibited Use

The following are strictly prohibited at all times:

- Recording, photographing, or livestreaming/posting students or staff without permission.
- Use of devices for cheating or academic dishonesty.
- Use of social media, texting, or gaming, during the school day.
- Use of cell phone earbuds/headphones during instructional time unless approved for accommodations.



Consequences

Failure to comply with this policy will result in progressive disciplinary action. Please note that repeated refusal to comply with staff requests may be considered insubordination:

1. **First Offense:** Device confiscated and student may retrieve device at the end of the day.
2. **Second Offense**” Device confiscated. parent/guardian required to retrieve the device, administrative intervention.
3. **Third and Subsequent Offenses:** Device confiscated, parent conference required, progressive discipline, which may include detention, loss of privileges, or other consequences as outlined in the Behavior Matrix in the BLPA Student Handbook.

Responsibility and Liability

Students bring devices to school at their own risk. Banning Lewis Prep Academy is not responsible for lost, stolen, or damaged personal devices.

Communication with Families

Families are encouraged to contact students through the school office during the instructional day. In the event of an emergency, students will be allowed to communicate through appropriate school channels.

