

STUDENT PERSONAL DEVICE USE

1 This policy covers the student use of personal technology in schools, including
2 cell phones, tablets, earbuds, smartwatches, and other technologies during the school
3 day.

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5 A. Student Personal Device Use.
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7 1. Student personal technology is only permitted to use the LCPS-OPEN
8 wireless network. Student personal technology is prohibited from accessing any other
9 internal LCPS network, wired or wireless. All personal technology devices used within
10 school or at school functions must be free from anything that would violate the LCPS
11 Student Rights and Responsibilities Handbook (SR&R) or this policy, including using a
12 Virtual Private Network (VPN) to subvert the division's protection measures.
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14 2. Student personal technology devices may only be used in designated
15 locations and at designated times. Unless otherwise required to access instruction,
16 students may not use devices in classrooms except when explicitly allowed by their
17 classroom teacher. Cell phones, earbuds, and smart watches must be silenced and put
18 away during all instructional periods unless allowed by the teacher or a special
19 circumstance exists and there is a documented accommodation.
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21 a. Elementary students are not permitted to use personal technology
22 during the school day.
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24 b. Middle school students must keep their devices off and away during
25 the school day unless expressly allowed by school administration.
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27 c. High school students may have personal technology devices on
28 their person but must ensure the devices are silenced during
29 instructional time. Use is allowable during non-instructional times,
30 such as class changes and meal times.
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32 3. Photography, audio, or video recording are prohibited in bathrooms, locker
33 rooms, or clinics. Students are prohibited from using phones, tablets, and other
34 personal technology devices in restrooms and locker rooms unless there is a medical
35 necessity or emergency.
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37 4. Inappropriate use of social media, images, text messages, or videos shall
38 not be permitted at any time on school property or during a school-sponsored activity;
39 this includes LCPS school transportation.
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41 5. Cyberbullying will not be tolerated in any form. Engaging in cyberbullying
42 during school hours or any school-sponsored events will result in disciplinary action in
43 accordance with the SR&R and LCPS Code of Student Conduct. A student who

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44 engages in cyberbullying outside of school is subject to disciplinary action in
45 accordance with the SR&R and LCPS Code of Student Conduct if the cyberbullying
46 negatively impacts the school climate, e.g., texting threats in the evening about
47 physically assaulting a person at school the next day instills a climate of fear and
48 intimidation, which compromises the school climate. Law enforcement may be involved
49 as deemed appropriate.

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51 B. School Staff Responsibilities.

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53 1. School leadership should clearly communicate expectations to staff,
54 students, and families on when device usage is acceptable. Such expectations may
55 include between classes or at lunch and only in specific areas of the school.

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57 2. Teachers may allow the use of these devices for specific educational
58 activities at their discretion.

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60 C. Student and Parent/Guardian Responsibilities.

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62 1. Parents should avoid contacting their children via personal devices during
63 the school day unless there is an emergency.

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65 2. The student is solely responsible for their personal devices. The school
66 and its staff are not liable for students' cell phones or other personal devices.

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68 D. Exceptions. Unless otherwise required to access instruction, students may not
69 use devices in classrooms except when explicitly allowed by their classroom teacher.
70 Parents/Guardians, multi-disciplinary team members, including 504 teams and
71 Individualized Education Plan teams, or other persons with knowledge of students who
72 require access to personally owned devices as an accommodation shall request such
73 accommodations through their respective teams.

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75 E. Policy Review. This policy will be reviewed and updated regularly and as needed
76 to address emerging issues and changes in technology use, but no less than every two
77 years.

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79 Adopted: xx/xx/xx

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83 Legal Refs: Va. Code Section 22.1-70.2

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85 Cross Refs: Policy 8210, Introduction to Student Discipline; 8250, Bullying Prevention
86 and Education; and 8650, Student Technology Acceptable/Responsible Use Policy