

Healthy Technology Use Plan

Preamble:

Olds Koinonia Christian School (“OKCS”) understands communicative technologies are used extensively in our society. In the best interests of learning and success, and based on solid research, we are implementing a Healthy Technology Use Plan.

Policy

Communicative technology (cellular enabled devices) is to be stored and turned off during the school day (8:45 AM - 3:16 PM). Failure to comply with this policy will result in confiscation of the device and consequences applied.

Benefits:

- Students create healthier relationships.
- Students can focus on learning with their classmates.
- Less peer pressure and social anxiety without being forced to be connected.
- More social connectedness with friends and school staff.

Staff Commitments:

- Staff are committed to limiting their cell phone/wifi enabled device use during school time to work related tasks and modelling best practices for teaching with technology.
- An awareness of developmentally appropriate screen time exposure throughout the day will also be a focus.

Directives:

- **STUDENT CELL PHONES:** Student cell phone use and wifi enabled devices are not permitted at any point during the school day.
- **COMPUTER USE:** School and personal computers used for educational purposes are permitted when required by the teacher/class.
- **SCHOOL DAY COMMUNICATION:** If a student has a need to contact home, they may speak to their teacher and a phone call will be facilitated. Parents may contact the office at any time during the school day. Every effort will be made to accommodate parent/student communication.
- **FIELD TRIPS & TEAMS:** In special circumstances, where a cell phone is beneficial for a field trip, teachers will give clear directions and arrangements may be made to allow cell phones during the activity. Sports teams will be allowed cell phone use after school and at sporting competitions.

Storage of Devices:

- High School Students will be allowed to use combination locks on their lockers.
- Devices may also be stored in the office during school hours.
- Elementary Students will be allowed to store devices in a secure location in the classroom or at the school office.

Consequences for violating this policy are as follows:

- 1st Offence - Device is confiscated from the student and taken to the office. Parents of the student are contacted. The device is returned to the student at the end of the day.
- 2nd Offence – Device is confiscated from the student. Parents of the student are contacted. The device is returned to the student at the end of the day. The student will now be required to have their device stored at the school office for the next 2 weeks during the regular school day.
- 3rd Offence – Parents will be contacted and a plan developed to best meet the needs of the school and family.