



BMHS CELL PHONE USE GUIDELINES 2024-2025

We want our students to be healthy, happy, and engaged learners. We hope our students pursue growth and aim to be their best selves.

To support learning at Bernice MacNaughton High School, and adhere to Policy 311ⁱ, we have developed guidelines for the use of personal digital devices.

Personal Digital Devices Definition

- Any device that has internet access, texting, music, or gaming capabilities. (Most likely a smartphone).

Personal Digital Device Guidelines

- ✓ Personal digital devices in your bag, in your locker, or the space provided by your teacher (not on your person).
 - o “Not on your person” means not in your pocket, shirt pocket or belt bag.
- ✓ Headphones and earbuds are not used during teacher instruction. If and when permitted, they are connected to laptop or tablet, not phone.
- ✓ No personal devices during class time includes walking to washroom, while in washroom or in changerooms.
- ✓ Smart watch notifications are turned off during class time.
- ✓ Students are welcome to access their devices during transition times and/or lunch.

FAQs	Answers
How can I reach my child if I need to contact them?	In the event of an emergency, you can always contact your child through the office, 506-856-3469. Every classroom has a page system to the office. The office can call your child promptly to the office.
Are there exceptions?	There are exceptions, as stated in Policy 311, medical conditions that require checking a personal digital device are permitted. This will be supported by a medical note. Contact the school to discuss further.
Why are you implementing these guidelines?	We believe (and the research supports ⁱⁱ) that cell phones are having a negative impact on student learning, engagement, mental health, and social and emotional development.

Consequences of not following guidelines:

- First offence: The student’s cellphone will be collected by the classroom teacher and held until the end of class.
- Second offence: The student’s cell phone will be collected and held at the main office until the end of the school day. Home will be contacted. Students may pick up their phones at the end of day.
- Third offence: The student’s cell phone will be collected and held in the main office until the student’s parents are able to come to pick it up.
- Fourth offence: Students may bring devices to school but will need to check them in at the office upon arrival and pick it up at the end of the school day.

ⁱ 311A.pdf (gnb.ca)

ⁱⁱ Away For The Day | Research, The Research - The Anxious Generation, CTIP-Cellphone-Guidelines.pdf (ctipractices.com)