



Mobile Device Policy

Student-owned mobile devices (smart phones, portable electronic devices) are not required at Acadia Junior High. Students who choose to bring their mobile devices to school do so at their own risk. The school is not responsible for lost or stolen mobile devices. At Acadia Junior High, **mobile devices and earbuds/headphones**, if not required for classroom use - must be placed in lockers during instructional hours between **9:20 a.m. – 12:05 p.m. & 1:10 - 3:55 p.m.** This includes any school sanctioned events. Students are permitted to use their mobile devices during lunch period but are expected to use them appropriately. During instructional time, teachers may ask students to use their personal devices to learn about Edsby, research, as appropriate.

At Acadia Junior High we are committed to.....

- **Learning:** Creating an environment that allows our students to reach their full potential.
- **Character:** Developing core values in our children: *Community, Excellence, Empathy, and Respect.*
- **Citizenship:** Thinking globally, acting locally.
- **Engagement:** Ability to focus in class and develop friendships with minimal distraction.
- **Wellness:** Building resilience.
- **Connection:** Face-to-face interaction.
- **Communication:** Building in-person communication skills.
- **Relationships:** Building friendships. Supportive staff-student connections.
- **Digital Citizenship:** Teaching appropriate use of social media, online communication, and a balanced approach to technology use.

There is to be NO student-initiated taking of pictures, video or audio on school grounds, or during any school events on or off-site without the permission of an adult employed by Pembina Trails School Division. Student and staff privacy must be respected at all times.

Consequences for students using their mobile device during unapproved times or for inappropriate reasons:

1st Offense

- Teacher warning
- Documented
- Student to put mobile device in locker immediately

2nd Offense

- Device confiscated
- Documented
- Student may pick up mobile device in the office at end of day

3rd Offense

- Device confiscated
- Documented
- Parent/Guardian must pick up mobile device and conference with a school administrator

4th Offense

- Device confiscated
- Documented
- Parent/Guardian must pick up at school
- Long-term mobile device ban will be considered

COMMUNITY

RESPECT

EMPATHY

EXCELLENCE

Frequently Asked Questions

1. Why am I not allowed to use my mobile device during class time?

- Mobile devices are not required for students to reach their full potential at Acadia Junior High. We want our students to develop their character, communication skills and authentic connections with one another without distraction or having to compete with a mobile device. Research and professional experience show that middle years students are not developmentally ready to manage the distractions brought on by mobile devices (i.e. notifications, texting, and video games) regardless of what rules are implemented.

2. Can I keep my mobile device in my locker?

- Choosing to bring a phone or device to school means that it must stay in your locker during school hours apart from lunch.

3. What are the rules for using my mobile device at lunch?

- Students can use their phones at lunch both inside and outside the building but must adhere to the restrictions around taking pictures and video. We believe in a balanced approach to using technology and therefore students need to have a chance to demonstrate that they can use their mobile devices appropriately.

4. In case of emergency, how can my parent/guardian contact me?

- Parents/guardians may call the school office (204-269-6210) anytime and we will contact their child immediately. If a student needs to contact a parent/guardian, a staff member will allow the student to come down to the office to make a phone call.

5. In case of emergency, how can I contact my parents/guardians?

- There is a phone available in the office for students to use in cases of emergency. Please explain the nature of your emergency to your teacher and they will allow you to go to the office to use the phone at the appropriate time.

6. What if my mobile device is stolen?

- Please let administration know immediately if your device is stolen and they will do what they can to try to recover the device. Note: The school is not responsible for lost or stolen mobile devices.

7. How can I learn to use my mobile device properly if I am not allowed to use it during school hours?

- Recent research demonstrates that middle years' children are not developmentally ready to manage their devices appropriately in the classroom. Feedback from students, teachers, and parents/guardians collectively indicates that mobile devices are highly distracting to students in class.
- Acadia Junior High is committed to having students develop a balanced approach to technology use through periodic workshops throughout the year on social media, digital citizenship, appropriate use, and more. Students will also be able to use their mobile devices at lunch.