

Student Code of Conduct for Cellphone Use at Coquitlam College – Brookmere Secondary

Purpose

This code of conduct outlines the rules, responsibilities, and consequences regarding the use of cellphones in schools across British Columbia. The purpose is to promote a focused learning environment, ensure student safety, and minimize distractions during instructional time.

This code of conduct applies to all students in English Studies and Senior Secondary programs.

Cellphone Usage Guidelines

During Instructional Time:

Cellphone use is prohibited during all instructional periods. This includes but is not limited to classrooms, labs, libraries, and other learning environments. Phones must be turned off or set to silent mode and stored in bags or designated areas.

During Breaks:

Cellphone use is permitted during class breaks and lunch breaks in designated areas. Students are encouraged to use their phones responsibly and in a manner that does not disrupt the school environment.

Emergency Situations:

In case of emergencies, students can access their phones with permission from a teacher or school administrator. Parents and guardians are encouraged to contact the school office in case of urgent matters, rather than directly contacting students during class time.

Special Circumstances

Educational Purposes:

Cellphones may be used during instructional time when explicitly permitted by the teacher for educational activities. This includes research, learning apps, or other approved classroom activities. Usage must be limited to the task at hand, and any unauthorized use will result in disciplinary action.

Medical Needs:

Students with specific medical conditions requiring cellphone use (e.g., to monitor health conditions) must receive prior approval from the school administration. A formal request must be made by parents or guardians outlining the necessity.

Prohibited Uses

Unauthorized Recording and Photography:

The use of cellphones to record or photograph students, staff, or school property without permission is strictly prohibited. This includes video recordings, voice recordings, and photography during school hours or on school premises.

Cyberbullying:

Any form of bullying, harassment, or intimidation using cellphones will not be tolerated and will result in disciplinary action according to the school's anti-bullying policy.

Cheating:

Using cellphones to cheat on assignments, tests, or exams is strictly forbidden. Any student caught using their phone in such a manner will face immediate consequences, including possible academic penalties.

Consequences of Non-Compliance

Failure to comply with the cellphone ban will result in the following progressive disciplinary actions:

First Offense: Verbal warning from the teacher or staff.

Second Offense: The cellphone will be confiscated and might be held by the teacher until the end of the day. Parents or guardians will be notified.

Third Offense: A meeting with the school administration may take place. Additional disciplinary actions may apply.

Repeat Offenses: Ongoing violations of the cellphone policy may lead to suspension, and a formal review of the student's conduct may be conducted.

Student Responsibilities

- Respect the cellphone ban during instructional time and store your device appropriately.
- Use your phone responsibly during permitted times, such as lunch and breaks.
- Be aware of the consequences of improper cellphone use and ensure actions align with the school's policies.
- Report any misuse of cellphones or incidents of cyberbullying to a teacher or school administrator.

Parental/Guardian Responsibilities

- Support the school's cellphone policy by encouraging responsible cellphone use at home.
- Stay informed about the school's policies and consequences regarding cellphone use.

School Responsibilities

- Provide clear communication regarding cellphone policies to students, parents, and staff.
- Ensure that consequences for violating the cellphone policy are applied fairly and consistently.
- Provide support and resources for students struggling with cellphone addiction or misuse.

Review and Updates

This cellphone ban policy will be reviewed regularly to ensure it remains relevant and effective in promoting a positive learning environment.