

EA Policy 3A.01.010 Electronic Device Policy

Definitions

An Electronic Device may include a personal: cell phone, smart phone, laser pointer,, paging device/beeper, smart watch, headphones, ear buds, radio, compact disc player, iPod, tablet, portable gaming device, hands-free device, and other device designed to receive and send an electronic signal.

Uses may include: out-going calls, in-coming calls, text messaging, emails, camera use, game playing, internet browsing, social media use, image sharing, file sharing, or any other use.

Excelsior Academy reserves the right to define the educational value of any new electronic device that may become available to the general public in the future and to prohibit their use if they have little or no educational value or if such use creates learner distraction or disruption.

Purpose and Philosophy

Excelsior Academy understands that electronic devices are an important part of culture. However, electronic devices can be a major problem on school campuses and cause disruption of the educational environment. The improper use of electronic devices distract students and take away from valuable academic time. The school must maintain the integrity and security of the educational system and student privacy.

Use of Electronic Devices

Student use of an electronic device is prohibited at school between the first and last bell of the day. Devices are to be turned off completely and stored in a locker or backpack while in a student's possession at school. At no time during the school day are students permitted to carry an electronic device on their clothing. When school has ended and a student has been excused from class, electronic devices are permitted in the hall as students leave the school.

Taking pictures or video on any electronic device is strictly prohibited. Such use may be in violation of criminal code.

Sending threatening, harassing, intimidating, offensive, vulgar, profane, obscene bullying or coercive communication of any kind, whether through verbal or nonverbal communication, text, social media, or other applications may result in disciplinary action and/or civil-criminal charges.

School administration may give permission for students to possess electronic devices for medical conditions written into a health care plan and a student's individualized education program (IEP).

Students shall be personally and solely responsible for the security of their personal electronic devices. Excelsior Academy shall not assume responsibility for theft, loss, or damage of an electronic device, or unauthorized calls made on a cell phone. It is strongly suggested that student electronic devices be left at home as this is the only sure way to avoid a potential policy violation.

Disciplinary Action

It is the students' responsibility to ensure that any electronic device is turned off and in their locker/backpack during unauthorized times. Students who violate the above restrictions shall be deemed to have created a disruption to the instructional environment and are subject to disciplinary action.

If a student is found in possession of a prohibited electronic device, the device may be confiscated. After multiple confiscations, the device will need to be picked up by a parent. EA will protect confiscated devices but are not responsible for loss, damage, or theft.

Emergencies

Parents should call the front office of the school for any emergency situation. Staff will contact the student. Parents should not try to contact students by cell phone or other electronic device.