



Noah Webster Schools

Cell Phone and Electronic Device Policy

Parent Information & Acknowledgment Packet

Dear Families,

In alignment with **Arizona House Bill 2484 (HB2484)** and **A.R.S. § 15-120.05**, Noah Webster Schools has adopted an updated **Cell Phone and Electronic Device Policy** for the 2025–2026 school year. This policy applies to all students in **Grades K–8** and is designed to support a safe, respectful, and academically focused learning environment.

Why This Policy?

Today's students face an overwhelming number of digital distractions. This new state law requires schools to limit—not eliminate—the use of cell phones and wireless communication devices during the **entire school day**, including lunch, passing periods, and recess.

At Noah Webster Schools, our goals are to:

- **Support strong academic focus** during learning hours
- **Encourage face-to-face social development**
- **Protect student safety and privacy**
- **Minimize cyberbullying, inappropriate content, and social drama** during school hours
- Maintain open, respectful **communication between families and the school**

We understand that families want to stay connected to their children during the day. We ask for your support in routing all communication through the **Front Desk**, so we can maintain structure while remaining responsive to urgent needs.

What's Inside This Packet

1. **Cell Phones/Electronic Device Policy**
2. **Student Letter of Understanding & Acknowledgement** – This outlines expectations and consequences in student-friendly terms. This is to be signed and returned, acknowledging that your students understand and support the policy.
3. **Parent/Guardian Letter of Understanding & Acknowledgement** – This provides details about enforcement and consequences. This is to be signed and returned, acknowledging that you understand and support the policy.

A Balanced Approach

This policy reflects our commitment to both **meeting the needs of students and families** and addressing real challenges that come with unrestricted device use in schools. Limited, staff-monitored exceptions are built in for emergency situations, health-related needs, and academic activities.

We deeply appreciate your partnership in helping your child succeed in school—not only academically, but socially and emotionally as well.

If you have any questions, please contact the school office. Thank you for your continued support!

Warm regards,

Dr. Terra Coleman
Principal
Noah Webster Schools-Mesa

Mr. Robert Rodenbaugh
Principal
Noah Webster Schools-Pima

CELL PHONES/ELECTRONIC DEVICES

[HB2484](#) created a new state law, A.R.S. § 15-120.05, that requires schools to adopt policies to **limit** (not eliminate) students' use of cell phones and other "wireless communication devices" during the school day. "School day" means the entire time that students are at school, including meals, passing periods, recess and before & after care.

Please know that communication lines are open between parents and students, the primary way we encourage communication without distraction and with increased positive social interaction and safety is for all communication to go through the Front Desk throughout the day.

Grades K-8 - "Gate to Gate"

Cell phones, and other electronic devices must remain turned off and inside the students' backpacks or designated classroom areas at all times, from time of arrival on campus until the end of the day, when the student leaves campus, unless directed otherwise (see below).

This includes all other telephonic devices such as smart watches, GPS trackers with phone capabilities, earbuds, etc. If a student is caught with a cell phone or electronic device outside his/her backpack or designated classroom area, the item will be confiscated and sent to the front office. The item will not be returned to the student and the parent/guardian of the student must pick it up in the front office. If the same student is caught with a cell phone or electronic device outside his/her backpack or designated classroom area a second time, the student may also be suspended and no longer allowed to bring the item to school. Further infractions may result in additional suspensions and/or a loss of other opportunities where there are phone limitations, such as field trips.

Field Trips: Students are not permitted to have cell phones or other electronic devices on field trips.

Increased consequences for certain violations:

Taking Pictures/video/audio recordings of self, peers, staff, or any members of the school community at any time will result in revocation of phone privileges and suspension.

Making unauthorized calls any time will result in revocation of phone privileges and suspension.

Using the phone in the restroom at any time will result in revocation of phone privileges and suspension.

A student who is requested to turn over a phone to a staff member and refuses to do so, will incur the following actions; an immediate call home requesting the parent to pick up the student, and a possible suspension.

Exceptions:

1 - The teacher allows students to access to their phone/social media for “educational purposes;”

2 - An emergency situation:

A student requests to use their phone and provides a reason, accepts permission to use the phone with staff supervision. Staff may deny or delay the request, especially if a valid reason is not provided, or if a monitoring staff member is not available.

There is a campus-wide non-personal emergency situation that would make the possibility of accessing the school’s phone lines impossible.

3 – Medical Reason:

If a student has a medical excuse, provided by a physician, that requires a phone as part of a health check/monitoring process.

Responsibility: NWS is not responsible for cell phones or other electronic devices brought to school by students.

Internet Restrictions regarding internet access and computer usage are in the Computer Usage Policy.

Student Letter of Understanding – Cell Phone/Electronic Device Policy

Noah Webster Schools

To help create a safe and respectful learning environment, Noah Webster Schools has a clear policy about using cell phones and electronic devices during the school day. This includes phones, smart watches, earbuds, and similar devices.

Here is what you need to know and follow:

- Devices must be **turned off and kept in your backpack or designated classroom area** during the entire school day, from arrival on campus to departure from campus.
- You **cannot use your device** at lunch, recess, or passing periods—even to check the time or send a quick message.
- You may not take photos, videos, or recordings of anyone at school.
- You may not use a phone in the restroom.
- If you are asked to hand over a phone or device and refuse, your parent will be called and you may be suspended.
- If you need to contact a parent during the day, please go through the **Front Desk** for help.
- **Exceptions** are only made if:
 - A teacher gives permission for educational use.
 - There's an emergency and a staff member allows supervised use.
 - You have a medical reason with a doctor's note.

What happens if I break the rules?

- First time: Your device will be taken to the office. A parent must come get it.
- Second time: Same as above, but you might be suspended and can lose the right to bring it to school.
- More times: Additional consequences, including missing field trips.

Field trips: You may not bring your phone or device.

By signing below, you agree to follow these rules and help make school a better place for everyone.

Student Name (Printed): _____

Student Signature: _____

Grade: _____

Date: _____

Parent/Guardian Letter of Understanding – Cell Phone/Electronic Device Policy

Noah Webster Schools

In compliance with Arizona state law (HB2484 / A.R.S. § 15-120.05), Noah Webster Schools has adopted a policy to limit student use of cell phones and electronic devices during the school day. We appreciate your support in helping us provide a focused, safe, and respectful learning environment for all students.

Policy Highlights:

- **All devices must remain off and stored** in backpacks or classroom-designated areas from arrival on campus to departure from campus.
- Students **may not access devices** during meals, recess, passing periods, or other parts of the day unless given direct staff permission.
- **Field trips:** No student devices are allowed.
- If a device is seen or used without permission:
 - **First offense:** Confiscated; parent/guardian must retrieve the device.
 - **Second offense:** Confiscated; possible suspension and loss of privilege to bring a device.
 - **Repeated or serious violations:** Suspension and exclusion from activities where phones are restricted.
- Taking photos/videos, using the phone in restrooms, or making unauthorized calls will result in an immediate suspension and revocation of privileges.
- Students refusing to turn over a device when asked will be sent home and may be suspended.

Exceptions apply only in these cases:

1. A teacher grants access for an educational activity.
2. A staff-approved emergency.
3. A documented medical need (with physician note).

Communication Expectations:

We ask that all non-emergency communication between students and families during the school day be routed through the **Front Desk** to avoid disruption and ensure safety.

Device Responsibility:

The school is **not responsible** for loss, theft, or damage to devices brought by students.

Before and After Care:

Device use remains subject to the same rules and may include additional program-specific guidelines or consequences.

Acknowledgment

By signing below, I acknowledge that I have read and understand the school's cell phone/electronic device policy. I agree to support its enforcement and have reviewed it with my child.

Parent/Guardian Name (Printed): _____

Parent/Guardian Signature: _____

Student Name: _____

Date: _____