



OAKVILLE PUBLIC SCHOOL POLICY FOR THE USE OF MOBILE PHONES DURING TEACHING TIME

While it is accepted that mobile phones are an important part of modern life and communications it is important that all staff accept that their use during class time and on various other occasions at school is inappropriate.

Mobile phones are to be switched off at the following times.

- Staff Meetings
- Training and Development sessions
- Class teaching time
- Playground duty

Teachers are not to speak on mobile phones during teaching time and are not to receive mobile phone calls during this time unless there are special circumstances **and the Principal has given permission.**

If you need to receive an urgent call, let SASS staff know and appropriate arrangements can be made.

If a family member of any member of the staff calls the school, SASS staff will take a message or in emergencies make arrangements for you to speak to them. Messages will be placed in staff pigeon holes. It is the responsibility of staff to check for messages. Persons leaving messages for staff will be asked if this is an emergency or urgent message in which case staff will be advised immediately.

If parents need to contact the school, please give them the school number to call, not your mobile phone number. For all school contacts parents of students should be directed to ring the school office number not teacher's personal mobile phones.

Students are not permitted to have mobile phones on their person nor to use mobile phones during school hours.

Several issues arise in regard to this matter.

- Inappropriate use of mobile phones e.g. nuisance calls or texting, bullying.
- Inappropriate use of phones during class time both for calls and use of games or cameras.
- Security of phones. As with other electronic games, etc, their security from theft or breakage can be an issue.

At Oakville students may only bring mobile phones to school if there is a need for them to be able to contact their parents either before arriving at school or in the afternoon after leaving school. If there is a need, as above, the child must bring a note from home on each day that the phone is required. Upon arrival at school the phone is to be checked in at the school office where it will be turned off and kept securely for the day. It is the child's responsibility to collect the phone at the end of the day.

Parents with an urgent need to be in contact with their child during the day should contact the school office and appropriate steps will be taken to pass on the message or arrangements will be made for the child to return the call on the school phone.