

Cell Phone and Electronic Device Policy

Willis Junior High School 2019

At Willis, we recognize that we are living in a highly connected world where many of our students place a great deal of importance on the use of cell phones and digital devices for communication. We also know that (when used appropriately) technology can serve to enhance/supplement educational experiences. However, research also indicates that cell phones can be a significant contributor to distraction and lack of focus. This is especially concerning when students may be receiving notifications, text messages, etc., throughout the class period. For this reason, we have outlined a phone and electronic device policy that seeks to find an appropriate balance between times when students are permitted to use phones, and when they must be put away.

Student cell phones may be used before school, at lunch, and after school. At all other times, cell phones / electronic devices are required to be in silent mode (or turned off) and placed in a student backpack/bag.

- **Phones may not be kept in pockets, or carried by hand – in class, or between classes**
- No headphones, earbuds, etc. in class, or between classes (only before school, at lunch, after school)
- Teachers have discretion (within their own classrooms) to allow the use of phones, or electronic devices, in their classroom if they determine it benefits instruction

As in the past, repeated and/or disruptive violations of this policy may result in a student phone/device being confiscated and a parent required to pick it up.

We recognize that parents may need to communicate with students during the school day. If you have a message for your student, please contact the Willis front office at (480) 883-5700 and we will gladly ensure that it is passed along to your student.