



## Cell Phone Policy for United World International School (UWIS)

The purpose of this policy is to ensure that cell phones do not interfere with the learning environment, the safety and well-being of students, and the privacy and dignity of all members of the school community.

### Policy Statement

- Cell phones are not allowed in the classrooms, hallways, library, cafeteria, or any other areas where instruction or school activities are taking place.
- Students must hand in their cell phones to their homeroom teacher at the beginning of each school day. The teacher will keep the phones in a secure place until the end of the day, when they will be returned to the students.
- Students who need to use their cell phones for emergency or medical reasons must obtain permission from their homeroom teacher or the school administration.
- Students who violate this policy will face disciplinary consequences, such as:
  - First offense: The cell phone will be confiscated by the teacher or staff member and returned to the student at the end of the day. The student will also receive a verbal warning and a note in their record.
  - Second offense: The cell phone will be confiscated by the teacher or staff member and returned to the student's parent or guardian. The student will also receive a written warning and a detention.
  - Third offense: The cell phone will be confiscated by the teacher or staff member and returned to the student's parent or guardian. The student will also receive a suspension and a referral to the school counselor.
- The school is not responsible for any loss, damage, or theft of cell phones that are brought to school or handed in to the teachers.
- The school reserves the right to inspect any cell phone that is suspected of being used for inappropriate or illegal purposes, such as bullying, cheating, harassment, or violating the school's code of conduct.

### Rationale

- Cell phones can be distracting and disruptive to the learning process, as they can divert students' attention from the lesson, create noise, and interfere with classroom management.



- Cell phones can also pose a risk to the safety and security of students, as they can be used to contact strangers, access inappropriate or harmful content, or facilitate cyberbullying or sexting.
- Cell phones can also infringe on the privacy and respect of others, as they can be used to take unauthorized photos or videos, record conversations, or spread rumors or gossip.

### **Teachers can enforce this policy effectively by:**

- Reminding students of this policy at the beginning of each school day, and collecting their cell phones in a designated box or container.
- Returning the cell phones to the students at the end of the day, and checking that none are missing or damaged.
- Reporting any violations of this policy to the school administration, and applying the disciplinary consequences accordingly.
- Educating students about the proper and ethical use of cell phones, and integrating digital citizenship lessons into the curriculum.
- Praising and rewarding students who comply with this policy and demonstrate good cell phone etiquette.

### **Parents can support this policy at home by:**

- Explaining to their children the reasons and benefits of this policy, and encouraging them to follow it.
- Monitoring their children's cell phone use and setting appropriate limits and rules.
- Modeling responsible and respectful cell phone use themselves, and avoiding using cell phones during family time or meals.
- Communicating with the school if they have any questions or concerns about this policy, or if they need to contact their children during school hours.

### **Implementation**

- This policy will be communicated to all students, parents, teachers, and staff members through the school website, newsletter, handbook, and orientation sessions.
- This policy will be enforced by all teachers and staff members in a consistent and fair manner.



- This policy will be reviewed and evaluated periodically by the school administration and the school council. Feedback from students, parents, teachers, and staff members will be solicited and considered.