



# ***Eagle Academy For Young Men at Ocean Hill***

## **School Cell Phone & Electronic Device Policy**

### **Purpose**

To create an environment conducive to learning by minimizing distractions caused by cell phones and other personal internet-enabled electronic devices, ensure the safety and focus of all students during school the school day, and follow Education Law §2803, effective August 1, 2025, all New York State schools are required to adopt a policy that prohibits the use of personal internet-enabled devices during the school day on school grounds. An "internet-enabled electronic device" is defined as an electronic device capable of connecting to the internet and enabling the user to access content on the internet. Examples of such devices include cell phones, smartphones, smartwatches, laptops, tablets, iPads, and portable music and entertainment systems.

### **Policy Statement**

Students will not be permitted to use or access their personal internet-enabled electronic devices upon arrival at school until the end of the school day. The school day is defined as the period from the moment students enter the school building until the last class of the day ends, including during lunch.

### **Middle School**

The school day starts at **8:30am** and ends at **2:50pm**. Students will be able to use school/NYCPS-issued devices during the school day.

### **High School**

The school day starts at **8:45am** and ends at **3:06pm**. Students will be able to use school/NYCPS-issued devices during the school day.

### **COLLECTION/STORAGE- MIDDLE SCHOOL**

1. Upon arrival, students must power off their devices.
  - a. During breakfast, the grade leader/ scholar coordinator will collect the phones from their specific grade. Starting at **8:45am**, grade level scholar coordinators will go to each classroom to collect them from late arrival scholars. Cell phones will be stored in the grade leader's room.
  - b. At the end of the school day, devices will be distributed by house leaders to their house scholars between **2:40pm-3:00pm**.



- c. Students with approved early dismissal will retrieve their devices from their grade leader.

### **COLLECTION/STORAGE - HIGH SCHOOL**

1. Upon arrival, students must power off their devices.
  - a. A designated collection point, supervised by staff members, will be set up by **Room 140 and 136** and the entrance to the building, between **8:00am** and **9:35am**. If students arrive after this window, they will turn in the devices in **Room 136**.
  - b. At the end of the school day, devices will be distributed by school staff in **Room 136** between times **3:06pm** and **3:30pm**.
  - c. Students with approved early dismissal will retrieve their devices in **Room 136**.

### **EMERGENCY COMMUNICATIONS**

- In case of emergency or exigent circumstances, parents or guardians can call **Ms. Chanel / Ms. Erica/ Ms. Lucy at 718-495-0863** to reach their child.
- In case of emergency or exigent circumstances, students may access phones in the **Main Office (Rm 135)** to reach their parents or guardians.
- In case of emergency or exigent circumstances, the school will use DOE Messenger to communicate information to parents or guardians.

### **EXCEPTIONS**

- Students are allowed to use their device if they have an individualized education program (IEP) or 504 Plan that includes use of an internet-enabled device and do not have a DOE-issued device for such purpose.
- Parents/guardians must contact **Ms. Chanel / Ms. Erica/ Ms. Lucy at 718-495-0863** if a student requires an exception for reasons such as: medical monitoring/treatments (for example to monitor blood sugar or other similar circumstances), if student is a caregiver, for approved language purposes (such as translation or interpretation services if no other means are available), or where otherwise required by law.
- The principal/designee may authorize use for an educational purpose.
- Exceptions will be processed and approved within 5-7 academic school days.

### **DISCIPLINE**

- Students who use electronic devices in violation of the NYCPS Discipline Code, the school's policy, Chancellor's Regulation A-413, and/or the NYCPS Internet Acceptable Use and Safety Policy ("IAUSP") will be subject to progressive discipline. This means that the disciplinary responses will escalate based on the nature and frequency of the violation. As provided in the State law, a student may not be suspended solely on the grounds that the student accessed a personal internet-enabled device in violation of



school policy. Repeated incidents of insubordination (i.e. refusal to surrender or store devices) **may** result in a suspension **if approved** by the Office of Safety and Youth Development.

**OTHER: If lost or stolen**

- In the unlikely event that an electronic device is stolen or damaged at school, parents can submit a claim to the Comptroller's Office. More information on submitting a claim is available on the [Comptroller's webpage](#).

We appreciate your cooperation in helping us maintain a focused and productive learning environment. If you have any questions or need further clarification regarding these policies, please do not hesitate to contact **Mr. McCoy at 718-495-0863**