



Guidelines for the use of Electronic Devices at London Christian Elementary School (June, 2014)

Rationale

There are many distractions in the day to day life of a student, both in and out of the classroom. It is the goal of this statement to set guidelines for the use of electronic devices (E-devices) at school and during all school events on or off the property. It is our desire to promote a positive learning environment free from unnecessary distractions, interruptions, or temptations that may be caused by various E-devices. While we recognize the convenience of such devices in emergency situations, it is important that we weigh such benefits against the overall learning environment and atmosphere of our school.

Goal

The goal of this document is to set guidelines in place so there is stability and consistency in the use of E-devices at LCES. As a school, we recognize their growing presence in our society and the increased capability of being connected to an Internet signal, either controlled or open. It is our desire to maintain the instructional environment of the classroom, and to allow for learning socially appropriate ways to interact with technology and E-devices.

Definition

For the purpose of this document, E-devices will be defined as any portable electronic devices whose purpose is to provide, but not limited to, entertainment, media, or communication. Such devices include cameras, iPods, smart phones, PDA's, tablets, handheld gaming devices, e-readers, or any device that is used in a similar fashion or has similar capabilities.

Guidelines

While the use of these devices can enhance the classroom experience and assist in the teaching and learning process, it is important that they do not become so relied upon that students feel they cannot function without them.

1. E-devices can be a beneficial tool for learning. The following are examples of productive use of these devices in a classroom setting: searchable/portable Bible, calculator, dictionary, e-reader, playing music, personal organizer, or as an assistive learning device for students with exceptionalities.
2. Student may possess E-devices at school, but there must be agreed upon guidelines and teacher approval prior to use in the classroom.
3. Devices, when in use, must be fully visible.
4. Students may not use E-devices on the playground outside unless it is part of a teacher directed activity.
5. If misused, a staff member may temporarily confiscate devices, to be returned to either the student or parent; at the discretion of the teacher.
6. Recording of individuals without their knowledge is illegal. The use of digital recording devices or cameras in washrooms is strictly prohibited. The use of any device in such a way will result in the immediate confiscation of the device. Such abuses will immediately be reported to the proper authorities.



7. Misuse of electronic devices for cheating, plagiarism, intimidation or other inappropriate behaviour is outlined in the Acceptable Use Policy and appropriate rules and consequences apply to all electronic devices as well.
8. Sending or receiving messages or a phone call is not an acceptable reason to be late or absent. Students and parents are asked to send communications through the office.

The safekeeping of E-devices remains the responsibility of the student. London Christian Elementary School is not responsible for lost or stolen devices.