



The American International School—Duhok
Cell Phone Policy

Policy Number: AS06

Effective Date: November 28, 2023

1. Purpose:

The purpose of this Cell Phone Policy is to establish guidelines for the appropriate and responsible use of cell phones by students at the American International School—Duhok, herein after referred to as AIS or the School. This policy aims to set clear boundaries for mobile technology with the need for a focused and distraction-free learning environment.

2. General Guidelines:

- a. **Prohibition During Instructional Time:** Cell phone use, including texting, calling, or browsing the internet, is not permitted during school hours, unless explicitly authorized by the school admin.
- b. **Restricted Areas:** Cell phone use is prohibited in designated restricted areas, such as libraries, computer labs, testing rooms, and other areas specifically designated by the school administration.
- c. **Disruption-Free Environment:** Students with prior approval are expected to keep their cell phones on silent or vibrate mode while on school premises to avoid disruptions in the learning environment.
- d. **Respect for Others:** Students should be mindful of others' needs for concentration and respect their right to a distraction-free learning environment. Authorized cell phone use should not interfere with the learning or well-being of others.

3. Cell Phone Possession:

- a. **Possession During School Hours:** Students are not allowed to possess cell phones during school hours. This includes the possession of other technological devices such as smart watches, which is prohibited on school premises.
- b. **Responsibility:** Students are personally responsible for the security and safety of their cell phones. The school will not be held liable for any loss, theft, damage, or misuse of cell phones.

4. Exceptions and Special Circumstances:

- a. **Educational Use:** Teachers may allow students to use their cell phones for educational purposes, such as accessing educational apps, conducting research, or participating in interactive class activities. Such usage should be explicitly authorized by the admin and supervised by the teacher.



- b. **Medical or Emergency Situations:** In case of a medical emergency or other urgent situations, students may use their cell phones with permission from a teacher, staff member, or the school administration.

5. Consequences:

- a. **Non-Compliance:** Failure to comply with the Cell Phone Policy (AS06) may result in consequences, which may vary based on the severity and frequency of the violation, the student's age, and the school's discretion.
- b. Possible consequences may include, but are not limited to, the following:
 - i. Verbal warning or reminder
 - ii. Confiscation of the cell phone, to be returned to the student or parent/guardian at a later time
 - iii. Loss of privileges, such as temporary or permanent loss of cell phone possession during school hours
 - iv. Parent/guardian notification
 - v. Additional disciplinary actions, as determined by the school administration

6. Communication and Updates:

- a. The school will communicate the Cell Phone Policy to students, parents/guardians, and staff members at the beginning of each academic year or as necessary.
- b. Any updates or changes to the policy will be communicated in a timely manner, ensuring all stakeholders are aware of the revised guidelines.

7. Review and Evaluation:

This policy will be reviewed periodically to ensure its effectiveness and relevance. Feedback from students, parents, staff, and relevant stakeholders will be considered in the policy's evaluation and improvement.

8. Authority

This policy shall be subject to periodic review and revision to ensure its effectiveness and relevance. The ultimate authority for policy approval within the school rests with the school's governing body. This policy shall take effect upon approval by the school's governing body.

9. Policy Adoption

Approved: November 28, 2023

Amended: