

Electronic Devices / Cell Phone Policy 2025-2026

At IAA, we embrace the use of electronic devices to be used as learning tools in the classroom. The school has purchased chromebooks for student use and apple TVs for every classroom. The use of technology in the classroom to enhance the learning experience of our students is already operational. The use of personal electronics and/or cell phones is not necessary and they are prohibited to be used in the classroom environment. Cell phones, earbuds/headphones and other personal electronic devices are not to interrupt the school day and should **remain out of sight and off or silent during class time**. In order to maintain a safe and professional school environment, students should be respectful of the learning and performing environment and follow the guidelines outlined in this policy.

Electronic Devices include, but are not limited to the following: cell phones, smart watches, pagers, iPods, Smartphones, Bluetooth speakers, etc.

Innovative Arts Academy is not responsible for any lost or stolen electronic devices.

Care and security of these devices is the responsibility of the student. Students bring these devices to school at their own risk. **Students are assigned lockers with locks and should use them to secure their belongings**. Once again the school will not be responsible for lost, stolen or broken electronic devices. We will assist students to try and locate lost or stolen devices. The school will not be held responsible.

Please note: Filming of any kind on a video camera, cell phone, or any other device, is strictly prohibited, without the permission of IAA administration. In the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, "it is unlawful to record either an in-person conversation or electronic communication without the consent of all parties. 18 Pa. Cons. Stat. Ann. & 5704 (West 2012)." Consequences may include but are not limited to: after school detention, in-school suspension, and out of school suspension.

Permitted Cell Phone Use Areas: (texting and checking social media only; no voice or video calls, etc.)

- Common cafe during breakfast and lunch
- Hallways (No earbuds / headphones will be allowed)
- Dismissal rooms while waiting for bus to be called

If a student needs to make an important phone call during the day, they should report to any member of the administration. In an emergency situation, parents may call the Main Office (610-403-2787) number to leave a message for their child; once the school is aware of the emergency, the student will be notified. Emergency use of devices may be granted at the discretion of and in the presence of teachers and/or administration.

Students that violate this policy will be subjected to the following disciplinary actions and will be issued a loss in Cougar Bucks:

- **1st Scenario:** warning from the teacher or school personnel and device must be put away. If followed no further discipline is required.
- **2nd Scenario:** device will be confiscated by the teacher or school personnel for the duration of the class. Teachers are to direct the student to place their phone on the teacher's desk or in the cell phone carrier. Teachers are **not** to physically take the phone from the student. The cell phone or device will be kept on the teachers desk and will be returned to the student at the end of class. If followed, discipline is not required.
- **3rd Scenario:** device will be confiscated by the teacher and turned over to the Dean of Students, Asst Dean, or member of the Administration. The device will be taken to the main office to be secured for the remainder of the school day. The student's device will be returned at the end of the day so they will have it for the ride home. If followed no further discipline necessary besides a phone call home to make the parents or guardian aware of the incident.
- **4th Scenario:** For students with frequent violations, the device will be confiscated by the teacher and turned over to the Dean of Students, SSTs, or Administrator. The device will be confiscated and taken to the main office to be secured for the remainder of the day. The student will receive 1 full day in the refocus room, a parent conference schedule, and the device or cell phone will only be returned to the parent/guardian. The student may be assigned to the reflection room or 1 full day in the refocus room. A parent/guardian

conference will be scheduled, and the device or cell phone will only be returned to the parent or guardian.

- **5th Scenario and Subsequent Scenarios:** may result in a 1-3 day OSS. A behavioral plan will be created and discussed with a parent/guardian to address the ongoing issue.
- **Refusal to hand over a prohibited device may result in immediate assignment to the refocus room until the device is handed over. If a student still refuses, a 1-3 days OSS may be assigned for defiance and insubordination.**
- **Any student that refuses to hand their cell phone over to a teacher, the teacher should immediately contact an Administrator or SST member to intervene.**

Computer Usage

Students of IAA will have access to chrome book computers and the internet daily. The purpose of internet usage is to extend the learning and teaching environment. This will allow students to develop and learn at their own pace.

The following uses of the network are unacceptable:

- Sending or displaying offensive message or pictures
- Using obscene or inflammatory language.
- Damaging computers and networks
- Using others' passwords.
- Going through others files or drives
- Using to searching other students and staff
- personal information.
- Viewing personal website (social media accounts)
- Sending and receiving messages that are not consistent with school.

The inappropriate use of technology and resources can be a violation of federal law. Violations may result in the IAA administration disciplinary process and or legal action.

Confiscation of chromebook / given work in paper form

- Counseling within the school
- Parental conference
- Loss of school privileges
- Transfer to another class
- Exclusion from school-sponsored activities
- Detention
- Assigned to refocus room
- Suspension (1-3 days)
- Expulsion
- Counseling/Therapy outside of school
- Referral to law enforcement officials
- And any additional usage determined inappropriate or prohibited per IAA Acceptable Usage Policy.

Factors Determining Consequences

- Students with IEP/504/behavior plan
- Repeated offenses
- Surrounding circumstances
- How the incident occurred
- Degree of incident
- Maturity and age of student(s)
- Relationship between students involved

Updated 6/26/25