

Smartphone Expectations at Dickens

Over the last number of years, smartphones have become more prevalent in the lives of elementary aged children and they can impact in many ways. At Dickens we have worked to develop guidelines for smartphone use. The following expectations are designed to establish common language and provide students with support as they venture into an online world.

Students are expected to:

- follow classroom guidelines for smartphone use
- use their smartphone as a tool rather than a toy in the classroom
- use their smartphone transparently and in a forthcoming manner
- access sites and applications consistent with the VSB's acceptable use policy
- interact socially with others during recess and lunch
- respect the privacy of all individuals at Dickens
- relinquish their phone to a staff member if called upon
- address behaviour not meeting school expectations and report to staff if needed
- contact parents through the office during the day

Staff are expected to:

- establish clear classroom guidelines for smartphone use
- provide instruction for online citizenship and digital literacy
- provide opportunities for play without electronics
- intervene in the event of behaviours not meeting school expectations
- intervene if a student is becoming preoccupied with a smartphone
- advise parents and administration of any ongoing concerns
- review the acceptable use policy with students each year

Parents are expected to:

- review the VSB's acceptable use policy with their child
- create a smartphone contract with clear expectations and consequences
- ensure their child is of age for social media sites
- determine whether social media accounts are public or private
- monitor their child's use of social media
- establish online firewalls and data cut-offs
- advise staff of behaviours not meeting school expectations
- review the acceptable use policy each year