



Cell phones are an important part of our modern lives, and have many advantages. In the school environment, however, most students cannot resist the temptations of social media, cheating, taking pictures with peers, and non-school use of cellphones. This extends to smart devices, like watches, that can receive texts, calls, pictures, and/or apps. Research has shown that having access to cell phones can be a major distraction to learning. The London School of Economics reported that schools that banned cell phone use earned significantly higher test scores and student academic accomplishments over schools that allowed cell phones. Another recent study in the journal JAMA Pediatrics found that middle school students who compulsively check social networks on their phones appear to have changes in areas of the brain linked to reward and punishment. Students in this age level are not developmentally ready to cope with this issue.

For these reasons, Heritage Christian School requires that cell phones are not allowed during school hours. If a student is seen with a cell phone out, in use, or in a pocket, etc. it will be turned over to the staff or administration and stored in the school office. The cell phone will remain safely in the school office until a parent picks it up.

Similarly, if a student is being distracted by a smart watch or other smart device, that smart device will be turned over to the school office until a parent picks it up.

Students who need to contact a family member during the day may always do this through the school office or a teacher. We have multiple school phones available for use. Parents, if you need to get an urgent message to your child during the school day, please contact the school office at 330-452-8271.

Outside of school, please remind your child that interactions between students are important. Bullying or inappropriate online or text behavior between students can have consequences at school. If you have any questions about these policies, feel free to contact the school office at 330-452-8271 or offices@hcscanton.org. We thank you for helping us educate your child while ensuring a safe and rigorous learning environment.