

AWAY FOR THE DAY

a **SCREEN** AGERS initiative

POLICIES & CONSEQUENCES

POLICIES

Examples of Middle School "Away For The Day" Cell Phone Policies

- Below are ways some schools are constructing their policies.
- These policies and consequences are obtained primarily via what schools stated on their websites, and a few are from parents.
- Some of these are the full policy while others are excerpts from the policy.
- Do you have an innovative one that you want to share with us? Email lisa@screenagersmovie.com.

Highland Park Middle School - Dallas TX

"Possession and use of personal telecommunications devices, including mobile telephones in grades K-8, students will not be permitted to display, turn on, or use a telecommunications device, including a cellular telephone, or other electronic device on school property during the school day. The use of mobile telephones or any device capable of capturing images is strictly prohibited in locker rooms or restroom areas while at school or at school-related or school-sponsored events. ...The district is not responsible for any damaged, lost, or stolen electronic device."

Murphysboro Middle School - Murphysboro, IL

"Students may have them out in the morning before school, but when the bell rings they must be off and in lockers until the end of the day."

White Hill Middle School - Fairfax, CA

"Electronic communication and listening devices such as cell phones, pagers, CD and MP3 players, iPods, etc. may be used before and after school only. If it is being used during the school day, school personnel may confiscate it."

Twelve CorneRs Middle School - Rochester, NY

"The phones are to be in their lockers from the start of homeroom until after the last period of the day."

Grace Christian School - Escondido, CA

"Cell phones, smart watches and any other communication devices may not be used while on campus. If you feel your child must have a cell phone, it must remain in their backpack, TURNED OFF while at school and during Extended Care. Texting and videotaping are not permitted anytime during the school day. Failure to follow these guidelines will result in a behavior detention and confiscation of the phone. The cell phone may be retrieved by the parent at the end of the day. This policy is in effect throughout the entire school day including extended care. Requests to use the phone or cell phone will be screened and the conversation monitored. Students are to make arrangements to go to friend's home BEFORE they arrive at school that day."

Burgess Hill

"Mobile phones can be brought to school but must remain off or silent and completely out of view on-site for the whole of the school day. Any phone in view and on-site will be confiscated, logged and securely held until the end of the school day, at which point it can be collected by the student. Repeat offenders will be sanctioned in line with our existing behaviour policy."

Glenridge Middle School - Orlando, FL

"No cell phone usage on campus by students."

Jefferson Middle School - Merritt Island, Florida

"All Jefferson Middle School students must complete a cell phone contract BEFORE bringing a cell phone on campus. This contract will be completed during registration. Once a cell phone contract is on file, it is valid for the entire time a student attends Jefferson Middle School. If you obtain a cell phone after the registration date or your cell phone information changes it is the student's responsibility to contact the front office to either complete or update a cell phone contract. Per school board policy, your cell phone must be turned off from the first bell in the morning until after the dismissal bell in the afternoon. Cell phone use is NOT permitted on the school bus."

CONSEQUENCES

Examples of consequences for cell phone infractions at middle schools shared with us by principals, teachers and parents.

If you would like to add your school's consequences to the list, send us an [email](#).

Rob Thomas, Principal Twelve Corners Middle School, Rochester, NY

“Students who "forget" are warned the first time. The second time we collect the phone for student to pick-up from the main office at the end of the day and a parent is notified. The third offense, the parent has to pick it up and the phone is not to return to school.”

Jeanne Borders, Principal Cornerstone Preparatory Academy, Acworth, GA

“We have a strict policy if they don't abide by the rules: 1st time we take the phone & they can get it at the end of the day & parents are notified. 2nd time they can't bring the phone back on campus for the semester. We also have the technology in the building to actually "see" what phones are on our network - not as easy to see if they are not on our network and relying on data plan.”

Ben Elliott, Grace Christian School, Escondido, CA

“If the parent feels their child must have a cell phone, it must remain in their backpack, TURNED OFF while at school and during Extended Care. Texting and videotaping are not permitted anytime during the school day. Failure to follow these guidelines will result in a behavior detention and confiscation of the phone. The cell phone may be retrieved by the parent at the end of the day.”

Stephanie Gates, Cascade Christian Academy, Wenatchee, WA

“First offense....Device will be taken to the front office for the remainder of the day and may be picked up when a student is ready to leave school. Second offense....Device will be taken to the front office and must be picked up by a parent/guardian. Third offense....Device will be taken to the front office and a meeting will be set up and may result in the device to be left in the front office daily.”

Brigitte Garcia, parent, St. Wilfrid's Parish, Burgess Hill, UK

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Sandy Jordan, Assistant Principal, The Paideia School, Atlanta, GA

“We tell students that if they legitimately forget to turn in their phone, they can bring it to an adult at any time during the day to turn it, no questions asked. However, if we discover them using a phone during the day without permission, we call home and the cell phone may not be brought back to school for two weeks.”

Ashley Gillingham, Assistant Principal, Lake Harriet Community School, Minneapolis, MN

“We ask that families and students use the main office when communicating messages from home or school. Students using phones or electronic devices without authorization for the first time will be asked to surrender his/her phone to the teacher and can pick up the phone at the end of the day. The second time the phone will need to be picked up by a parent/guardian in the main office. The third time there will be a meeting with administration to create a personal electronics plan/contract.”

Jeffrey Jones, Principal, K. International School, Tokyo, Japan

“We must be diligent with follow up. Students using phones have them taken away and must complete a reflective activity to get it back – repeat incidents result in parents getting involved.”

**A. Robert Jessen, Ph.D., Principal, Monte del Sol Charter School,
Sante Fe, NM**

“First offense is confiscation for 30 days and second is the rest of the year.”

Karen Webb, German Swiss International School, Hong Kong

“If the phone is seen anytime after school starts until end of school day, it is immediately confiscated. Student has to collect it after school ends.”

Lindsay S. Meredith, Counselor, Bedford Middle School, Westport, CT

“Not adhering to cell phone expectations will result in the following:

Warning by teacher during the 1st week of school (August 14th-18th).

Effective August 21st, cell phone infractions will result in confiscation and sent to main office.

First offense, students may pick up their cell phone at the end of the school day. Following offenses, parents must pick up cell phone. Students who do not follow teacher directives will be acting in defiance which could result in a disciplinary referral.”

WHITE HILL MIDDLE SCHOOL - FAIRFAX, CA

“Students will receive a warning for the first offense, and a parent must pick up the phone in the office for second or subsequent offenses.”