



BRONX ACADEMY FOR MULTI-MEDIA

730 Bryant Avenue, Bronx, NY 10474
Phone: 718.328.1972 Fax: 718.328.7330



Cell Phone & Electronic Device Policy

Purpose:

To create an environment conducive to learning by minimizing distractions caused by cell phones and other personal internet-enabled electronic devices, ensure the safety and focus of all students during school the school day, and follow [Education Law §2803](#), effective August 1, 2025, all New York State schools are required to adopt a policy that prohibits the use of personal internet-enabled devices during the school day on school grounds. An "internet-enabled electronic device" is defined as an electronic device capable of connecting to the internet and enabling the user to access content on the internet. Examples of such devices include cell phones, smartphones, smartwatches, laptops, tablets, iPads, and portable music and entertainment systems.

Policy statement:

Students will not be permitted to use or access their personal internet-enabled electronic devices upon arrival at school until the end of the school day. The school day is defined as the period from the moment students enter the school building until the last class of the day ends, including during lunch. Entry for breakfast commences at 7:45AM. Period one opens at 8:15AM and dismissal occurs at 2:35PM. Students may use school/NYCPS-issued devices during the school day.

1. COLLECTION/STORAGE

Upon arrival, students must power off their devices and place them in a secure Yonder pouch issued the first day of school (9/4).

- A designated collection point, supervised by staff members, will be set up by 7:45AM in the lobby of the building. If students arrive after 9:15AM, they should power off and turn-in deposit their device to the Main Office.
- Collected Yonder pouches will be placed in secure mobile units and transported to the Main Office by 9:15AM.
- At the close of the school day, pouches will be distributed and unlocked by school staff in the lobby from 2:35PM to 2:50PM.
- Students who had their device confiscated at scanning will have to pick up their device from the Dean of Students in the lobby at 2:35PM.
- Students with approved early dismissal will retrieve their devices from the Main Office.



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- Students will be issued a replacement Yonder pouch for a nominal fee of \$10.

2. EMERGENCY COMMUNICATIONS

- In case of emergency or exigent circumstances, parents or guardians can call Mrs. Desiree Vega, our Parent Coordinator, at 929 510 6487, or the main office at 718-328-1972 to reach their child.
- In case of emergency or exigent circumstances, students may access phones in the Main Office to reach their parents or guardians.
- In case of emergency or exigent circumstances, the school will use GAMA to communicate information to parents or guardians.
 - **What's GAMA?** GAMA stands for **G**rades, **A**ttendance, and **M**essaging **A**pplications.
 - **Please contact Ms. Vega, our Parent Coordinator, at 929 510 6487 for directions setting up NYCSA account** to access GAMA, or
 - Drop by our Parent Suite anytime between 7:30AM - 3PM and Ms. Vega will help you set up your NYCSA account to access GAMA.

3. EXCEPTIONS

- Students are allowed to use their device if they have an individualized education program (IEP) or 504 Plan that includes use of an internet-enabled device AND do not have a DOE-issued device for such purpose.
- Parents/guardians must contact AP Marissa at 718 328 1972 if a student requires an exception for reasons such as: medical reasons (for example to monitor blood sugar or other similar circumstances), if student is a caregiver, for approved language purposes (such as translation or interpretation services if no other means are available), or where otherwise required by law.
- Exceptions will be processed and approved by AP Marissa within 24 hours

4. DISCIPLINE

- Students who use electronic devices in violation of the NYCPS [Discipline Code](#), the school's policy, Chancellor's Regulation A-413, and/or the NYCPS [Internet Acceptable Use and Safety Policy](#) ("IAUSP") will be subject to progressive discipline. This means that the disciplinary responses will escalate based on the nature and frequency of the violation.
- First-Time Infraction: Verbal reminder to student and phone call home.
- Second-Time Infraction: In-school conference with student and family.
- Third Time Infraction: School will collect electronic devices and parents or guardians must retrieve devices from the school.



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- As provided in the State law, a student may not be suspended solely on the grounds that the student accessed a personal internet-enabled device in violation of school policy. Repeated incidents of insubordination (i.e. refusal to surrender or store device) **may** result in a suspension **if approved** by the Office of Safety and Youth Development.

5. OTHER: If lost or stolen

- In the unlikely event that an electronic device is stolen or damaged at school, parents can submit a claim to the Comptroller's Office. More information on submitting a claim is available on the [Comptroller's webpage](#).

We appreciate your cooperation in helping us maintain a focused and productive learning environment. If you have any questions or need further clarification regarding these policies, please do not hesitate to contact any member of our Administration listed below.

Thanks in advance for your continued support.

We look forward to another successful year at BAMM!

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