
**CELL PHONES, SMARTPHONES, PAGERS & OTHER ELECTRONIC SIGNALING DEVICES
POLICY**

Sage Oak Charter Schools (“SOCS” or the “Charter School”) recognizes the potential for cell phones, smartphones, pagers, and electronic signaling devices (hereinafter collectively referred to as “private devices”) to disrupt the learning environment of the Charter School, and adopts this Policy to permit students to possess but not use private devices while at school-sponsored activities or under the supervision of Charter School employees, except as otherwise provided in this Policy. Students who possess any private devices must always keep them turned off and out of view while at school-sponsored activities and functions. Charter School teachers, administrators, and staff will confiscate any private devices used by a student in violation of this Policy. All students are required to adhere to the following guidelines regarding private devices. This policy was developed with input from parents/guardians, students, and staff in accordance with applicable state law.

Private devices may be used:

- a. Before or after any Charter School-sponsored activity occurring before or after the regular school day.
- b. In the case of an emergency, or in response to a perceived threat of danger.
- c. When a teacher or administrator of the Charter School grants permission to a student to possess or use a private device, subject to any reasonable limitation imposed by that teacher or administrator.
- d. When a licensed physician and surgeon determines that the possession or use of a private device is necessary for the health or well-being of the student.
- e. When the possession or use of a private device is required in a student’s individualized education program (“IEP”).

Students are permitted to use private devices to communicate with parents/guardians in the event of an emergency. The Charter School will ensure that students have access to their private devices in such circumstances to facilitate necessary communication.

Private devices shall be turned off and shall not be used:

- a. During events sponsored by the Charter School held before or after regular school hours.
- b. On field trips or excursions sponsored by the Charter School.
- c. During State assessments administration

In accordance with AB 3216, the use of private devices is prohibited during instructional time unless the use is required for health or safety reasons, educational purposes, or is part of a student's individualized education program (IEP) or Section 504 Plan.

Possession of private devices is a privilege, which may be forfeited by any student who fails to abide by the terms of this Policy. All Charter School employees shall remove any private device from the possession of a student found to be violating this Policy. If a private device is heard ringing, beeping, or buzzing from inside a jacket, purse, backpack, or other similar article,

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whether within the immediate presence of the student or not, a Charter School employee may remove the private device and confiscate the private device. Parents/guardians will be contacted to pick up any confiscated private devices at the conclusion of a Charter School-sponsored activity.

Students who violate this policy may face progressive disciplinary consequences, including the temporary confiscation of the private device and the potential loss of the privilege to possess private devices during school-sponsored activities. Repeated violations may result in further disciplinary actions in accordance with the Charter School's student discipline policies.

Students who possess any private device(s) shall assume sole responsibility for the maintenance and care of any such private device(s) in accordance with this Policy. At no time shall the Charter School be responsible for preventing theft, loss, or damage to any private devices brought to Charter School-sponsored activities.

This policy shall be reviewed and, if necessary, updated at least once every five years to ensure continued compliance with state law.