

5th Period For proper use of social media etc.

What are “Don’ts” for your children while using a smartphone?

Parents don’t have to ban children from using a smartphone. Teach them “what they should not do” to avoid risks, when you hand over a smartphone to them.

- Don’t share your personal information including your name, address and age. Also don’t share information that can lead to identify who you are, such as your facial photos, the name of your school or school club. Don’t share your friend’s or family’s information, too.
- Don’t post pictures with location information. (Turn off location setting on a camera app)
Be careful about the scenery in a photo or video, because it can identify your whereabouts and residence.
- Don’t slander others for example saying bad things of friends etc. on social media. (Those posts can cause troubles and you can be an offender of a crime depending on the content.)
- Don’t accept information on the internet without questioning.
- Don’t take a picture of yourself naked or in underwear, or send it to people (including your boyfriend/girlfriend), or allow them to take your pictures.
- Don’t talk on the phone or exchange messages with people you met online, and NEVER meet them in person. (A malicious person may play a good person.)



What parents should do (Responsibility for letting your children have a smartphone)

Once you have brought a bicycle for your children, does your role end there? Wouldn’t you practice with them until they learn to ride it safely?

Isn’t it the same with a smartphone? Parents have the responsibility to teach their children how to use the smartphone properly, in order not to be hurt or not to hurt somebody else.

- **Tell your children that you are the owner of the smartphone.**
You are the subscriber of the smartphone etc.. Help them understand that you lend it to them. Discuss and have them agree on the rules for smartphone use (See “6th Period Class” for how to make the rules). Also, passwords should be managed by parents.
- **Teach your children about the risks.**
Tell them that it’s hard to tell the good guys from the bad especially online. Teach them that some children at their age actually have been hurt, and they can be the next victims.
- **Teach your children that anonymity cannot be an excuse**
Teach them that anonymity cannot allow them to do whatever they want to do. They should not do in the cyber world what they should not do in the real society. Cyberbullying is out of the question. Bad things always come to light.
- **Ask your children to teach you what you don’t know**
Be interested in the apps or games your children use, and ask them if you don’t know about them. Experience what functions those apps have and what the dangerous elements are. Tell them in your words how risky the smartphones can be.



Children may know how fun it is to use a smartphone, but do not know how scary it is.