

No. EDN-B-A(3)-1/2025
Government of Himachal Pradesh
Department of School Education

From

The Secretary (Education) to the
Government of Himachal Pradesh.

To

The Director of School Education
Himachal Pradesh, Shimla-1

Subject:

**Instructions Regarding Use of Mobile Phones and
Other Personal Electronic Devices in the Government
Schools (Reference: Para 2.32 (b) of the HP School
Education Code).**

Sir,

1. Communication Technology has altered the way we interact in our personal and professional spheres. School Education has also changed and technology has become integral part not only of pedagogy but also of school administration and management. Various software solutions, online applications, education portals, chat-bots and digital tools are in use and have become part of school system. While we must use technology, however, excessive use is to be avoided. Keeping this in view the State has integrated most of the applications under the umbrella platform of Vidya Samiksha Kendra (VSK) and U-DISE+.
2. The Department of Education promotes judicious use of technology to facilitate high-quality learning experiences for students. If used appropriately, technology can increase students' engagement and aid their understanding. It can make information more accessible and dynamic and allows students to benefit from an interactive learning environment. However, technology can also become a persistent distraction and have detrimental impact on students' learning. Therefore, steps need to be taken to effectively manage and monitor use of technology in schooling system.
3. One negative outcome of increased use of technology is that Mobile Phone has become an essential accessory and in many cases, it has turned into a harmful addiction. In several countries of the world there are de-addiction clinics to cure people of mobile phone's addiction. And several



countries have banned or restricted use of mobile phone in academic settings.

4. Numerous studies demonstrate the negative impact that personal electronic devices, particularly mobile phones, can have on students' productivity and their ability to focus in the classroom. Schools cannot foster an effective learning environment if students have access to devices that allow them to conduct text conversations, make calls, access the internet, take pictures and videos, listen to music, watch TV and films, or play games when they are supposed to be fully engaged in their learning.

5. As a normal practice, parents gift mobile phones and tablets to their children to ensure their safety and personal security, such devices present a serious privacy and data protection risk. It is documented that mobile phones have contributed significantly to the rise in cyber bullying (bullying that takes place online, particularly via social media), sexting (sending sexually explicit messages or images via text), and data protection breaches arising from filming/photographing subjects without consent of the person.

6. Further, increasing use of mobile phones by teachers during teaching hours has emerged as another significant concern in the school education system. Teachers' engagement with mobile phones for non-academic purposes often leads to reduced instructional time, decreased student attention, and weakened classroom discipline. Moreover, such practices may negatively influence students' behavior, as teachers serve as primary role models. Lack of clear norms, monitoring mechanisms, and awareness regarding responsible mobile phone use further aggravates the problem.

7. Therefore, it has been decided to regulate use of mobile phones and other personal electronic devices (PEDs) by students and teachers in schools in the following manner:

- 7.1. **Complete ban on use of Personal Mobile Phones and other Personal Electronic Devices by students:** Mobile Phones and all other PEDs such as Smart Watches, Fitbits, Headphones, Non-learning tablets/iPads, Music Players, Hand-held Entertainment/Games Systems (e.g. Nintendo Switch) or any device that can be used for image capture/recording, sound recording and information transmitting/receiving/storing etc **shall be totally banned for students within the school premises.**




- 7.2. In SMC meetings, it should be made clear to parents that the students are not allowed to bring mobile phones or any other personal electronic devices to the School.
- 7.3. If any student is found in possession of a mobile phone/personal electronic device (even if they are not actively using it at the time), he/she will face appropriate penalty including expulsion in case of repeated violations, if necessary, to maintain the decorum. The monetary penal provision may be introduced by the School in consultation with the SMC.
- 7.4. Only under exceptional circumstances where telephonic coordination between a student and his parent/guardian on account of safety and serious health issues of a student is unavoidable, permission for bringing phone to school can be granted by the Head of Institution on a written request made by the concerned Parent/Guardian. However, in such cases of exceptional nature also, the student will have to deposit his phone at a designated corner and he/she will be allowed to make calls from there only during school breaks. Such permitted student shall not be allowed to carry his/her phone to the classroom/library/lab/playgrounds/other areas of shared use.

8. **Restrictions on use of Mobile Phones by the Teachers**

- 8.1. Teachers shall not use mobile phones during classroom teaching, laboratory work, examinations or any academic interaction with students, except for academic or emergency purposes.
- 8.2. Mobile phones may be used strictly for academic instruction (digital content, attendance, learning apps, official school platforms), communication related to school administration, in emergencies with prior permission from the Head of Institution
- 8.3. All mobile phones must be kept on silent mode during school hours to avoid disturbance.
- 8.4. The teachers shall not browse social media, gaming, entertainment, or non-academic video/audio use, without official authorization.
- 8.5. No recording of students will be done without specific permission from the SMC/School Principal/Head of the Institution and/or the students.

- 8.6. Personal use of mobile phones for calling/messaging may be allowed only during designated breaks and in staff rooms, subject to school discipline norms.
- 8.7. In case of genuine emergencies while taking a class the mobile phone may be used discreetly and the concerned teacher must inform the Head of the Institution about this exchange.
- 8.8. In the event of any violations by any teacher, he/she shall be liable for disciplinary proceeding as per the applicable service rules.
- 8.9. **The head of the institution shall be responsible to monitor the compliance of these provisions. In case of any violations, he shall take suitable action against the defaulting student/teacher. Failure to take action against defaulting students/teachers shall make the Head of the Institution liable for disciplinary action.**
9. These provisions shall come into force w.e.f. 1st of January, 2026. These provisions shall replace the existing provisions under para 2.32 (b) of the Himachal Pradesh School Education Code.


Yours faithfully,


(Rakesh Kanwar) IAS
Secretary (Education) to the
Government of Himachal Pradesh.

Endst. No. even the dated December, 2025

Copy forwarded for information and necessary action to: -

1. The State Project Director (SS), Himachal Pradesh, Shimla-1
2. All the Deputy Directors of School Education (Secondary/Elementary /Quality) in Himachal Pradesh.
3. All the Principals of Government Senior Secondary Schools in Himachal Pradesh.
4. All the Headmasters of Government High Schools in Himachal Pradesh.
5. All the Block Elementary Education Officers in Himachal Pradesh.
6. All the Center Head Teachers in Himachal Pradesh.

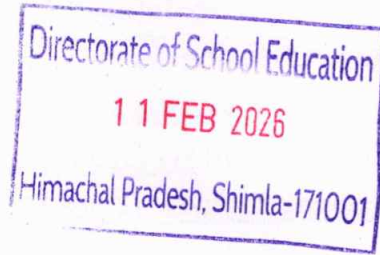

Secretary (Education) to the
Government of Himachal Pradesh.

No.EDN-SE (10) B (15)15/2026-Education code
Directorate of School Education
Himachal Pradesh

Endst.No. Even Dated: Shimla-171001 the Feb, 2026

Copy for information and further necessary action is forwarded to:-

1. The State Project Director (SS), Himachal Pradesh Shimla-1
2. All the Deputy Directors of School Education (Secondary /Elementary /Quality) in Himachal Pradesh.
3. All the Principals of GSSS in H.P.
4. All t the HMs of GHS in H.P.
5. All the Block Elementary Education officers in H.P.
6. The Supdt. Quality Cell Directorate of School Education Himachal Pradesh.
- ✓ 7. The Technical Officer (Computer/IT/Cell), Directorate of School Education Shimla -1 to upload the letter on departmental website and email the same please.
8. Guard File.



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Director of School Education
Himachal Pradesh

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