



Republic of the Philippines
Department of Education
REGION I
SCHOOLS DIVISION OF THE CITY OF BATAC

DIVISION MEMORANDUM
No. **432** s. 2026

02 JUL 2026

**REITERATION OF POLICIES ON THE SAFE AND RESPONSIBLE USE OF THE
INTERNET AND RELATED DEVICES**

To: Assistant Schools Division Superintendent
Chief Education Supervisors
Unit and Section Heads
Public and Private Elementary and Secondary School Heads
All Others Concerned

1. In support of the Department of Education's (DepEd's) continuing efforts to safeguard the welfare, safety, security, and well-being of learners and personnel, this Office reiterates the strict implementation of existing policies and guidelines on the safe, responsible, and appropriate use of the internet and portable electronic devices in all public and private elementary and secondary schools within the Schools Division of the City of Batac (SDCB).
2. DepEd Order No. 6, s. 2026, titled Guidelines on Ensuring a Safe and Motivating Learning Environment (ESMLE), the use of portable electronic devices by learners and school personnel during instructional hours is generally prohibited. Exceptions may only be allowed when the use of such devices is necessary for legitimate educational purposes, such as accessing learning resources, participating in teacher-directed digital learning activities, or in emergency situations that require immediate communication or response. Consequently, the use of mobile devices for non-instructional activities—including, but not limited to, browsing social media, playing online games, creating content, livestreaming, or vlogging during class hours—shall not be permitted.
3. Schools are likewise reminded that promoting responsible digital citizenship requires the active participation of all stakeholders. Consistent with the ESMLE Framework, school heads are encouraged to strengthen collaboration with parents, local government units, law enforcement agencies, government partners, civil society organizations, and the wider community in guiding learners toward the responsible, ethical, and respectful use of digital technologies both within and beyond the school environment.
4. To ensure effective implementation, all school heads are directed to widely disseminate the provisions of this Memorandum and DepEd Order No. 6, s. 2026 to teaching and non-teaching personnel, learners, parents, and other stakeholders. Schools are further encouraged to integrate activities and advocacy campaigns that promote online safety, digital responsibility, and the proper use of technology as part of their learner development and child protection initiatives.
5. Attached is a copy of Memorandum DM-OUOPS-2026-06-1660 for reference.
6. For information and guidance.

Encl.: as stated
Reference: DM-OUOPS-2026-06-1660
To be included in the Perpetual Index
Under the following subject:

POLICIES

ABG/20_Reiteration of Policies
2609788//26197/July 02, 2026

ANSELMO R. ALUDINO
Schools Division Superintendent

By the Authority of the SDS:

ARNEL S. BANDIOLA
Assistant Schools Division Superintendent





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 OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

SDCB RECORDS UNIT
 2609788

Department of Education
 Schools Division of the City of Batang
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 BY: [Signature] TIME: 6:24

MEMORANDUM
 DM-OUOPS-2026-06-1660

TO : ALL REGIONAL DIRECTORS
 ALL SCHOOLS DIVISION SUPERINTENDENTS
 ALL SCHOOL HEADS
 ALL OTHERS CONCERNED

FROM : [Redacted]
ATTY. FATIMA LIPP D. PANONTONGAN
Undersecretary and Chief of Staff
 [Redacted]
ATTY. FILEMON RAY L. JAVIER
Undersecretary for Legal and Legislative Affairs
 [Redacted]
MALCOLM S. GARMA
Undersecretary for Governance and Operations



SUBJECT : REITERATION OF POLICIES ON THE SAFE AND RESPONSIBLE
 USE OF THE INTERNET AND RELATED DEVICES

DATE : JUN 30 2026

Pursuant to the Department of Education's (DepEd) commitment to promote and uphold the welfare, safety, security, and protection of all learners and personnel, this Office reiterates the strict implementation of and compliance with existing policies and guidelines concerning the promotion of safe and responsible use of the internet and related devices.

DepEd Order No. 6, s. 2026, titled *Guidelines on Ensuring a Safe and Motivating Learning Environment (ESMLE)*, expressly **prohibits the use of portable electronic devices during instructional hours by both learners and personnel**. However, **exemptions are granted** in meritorious cases, specifically for **academic purposes** (e.g. accessing educational platforms, digital resources, or participating in authorized online collaborative activities) and **emergency situations** (e.g. facilitating communication during disasters, medical crises, or other immediate safety concerns). This includes the prohibition of the usage of, but not limited to, social media, online games, content creation, and vlogging during class hours.

Guided by the ESMLE Framework, a **whole-of-society approach is necessary** in order to **properly guide learners**. Parents, Local Government Units, Police and other Law Enforcement agencies, other government agencies and instrumentalities, Non-Government Organizations/Civil Society Organizations, and all other stakeholders



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each have a collective role to play to ensure that the learners develop responsibility and empathy towards others, even outside the classroom.

In the interest of further promoting the aforementioned values, all field offices and schools are hereby directed to ensure the widest dissemination of these policies to all stakeholders and to **intensify the campaign on the safe and responsible use of the internet and related devices.**



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