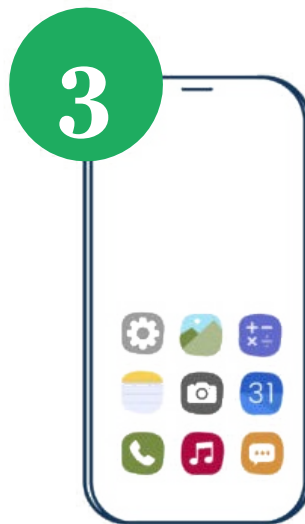
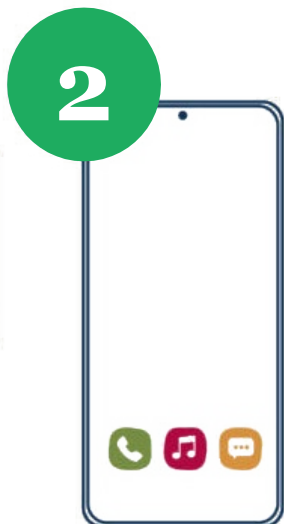
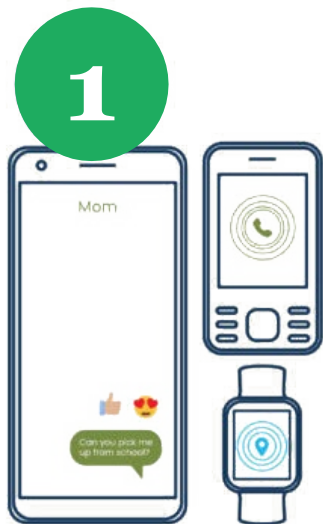


Smartphone Stairsteps

A FOUR-PHASE PROCESS



7th Grade:

- If students have demonstrated responsibility at school and at home, they could have access to a family device that is monitored.*
- Any texts should be reviewed on a weekly basis.
- No social media or other persuasive technology
- No automatic access to the internet
- The internet should have a filter such as "Covenant Eyes" for the duration of their years under parental authority.

8th Grade:

- If students have demonstrated responsibility at school and at home, students could have a personal device that charges with parents and is monitored.*
- Any texts should be reviewed on a weekly basis.
- No social media or other persuasive technology.
- No internet browser on the personal device.

9th Grade:

- If students have demonstrated responsibility at school and at home, students could have a smartphone which has screen time limits controlled by the parents.*
- No social media or other persuasive technology
- Add a few non-social media apps.
- No internet browser on the smartphone

10th-12th Grade:

- If students have demonstrated responsibility at school and home, students could have a personal smartphone which they manage.*
- Parents should still decide on family approved screen time boundaries, write them down, and post them in the household.
- Students could have an internet browser with protections like "Covenant Eyes" in place.
- Social media could be permitted but is not recommended before 18 years of age.
- Make sure students are aware of the dangers and effects of persuasive technology.

*If a student violates a set boundary or begins to struggle in school, device privileges should be revoked.

adapted from: