

Mr. Hickman's General Classroom Rules and Policies for 2019-2020

Classroom Rules

1. Be on time and be prepared on a daily basis.
2. Follow all guidelines and rules stated in school's handbook/student planner.
3. Focus class time on getting better at mathematics.
4. Be helpful, courteous, and respectful to all in the classroom.
5. Practice mathematics and mathematical thinking on a regular basis.
6. Seek help and ask questions in an appropriate manner and at the appropriate times.
7. Technology's primary goal in a mathematics classroom should be on the learning of mathematics.
8. Learn from mathematical misconceptions.
9. Provide adequate justification for proper mathematical logic in a clear and coherent manner on all assessments, practice, and investigations.
10. Strive to understand mathematics in both the particular and the general cases.
11. Rest at home. Heads off the tables. Focus is required to learn and master mathematics.
12. Eat in the cafeteria. Food is a distraction to all, those eating and those not eating.
13. You will be required to help with the proper acquisition of classroom materials and replacement of said materials.
14. Please use the recycling bins and trash can to maintain a clean learning environment.
15. Be prepared to help in the change of the classroom setting to different modes and be prepared to return classroom setting to a mode stated by teacher. This includes moving tables and chairs within the classroom.
16. Stay hydrated. Mr. Hickman provides a water dispenser in the classroom, but he would like to avoid contributing to single use waste, so this year he will not provide cups after heat schedule. Get a reusable container for water.
17. Keep your ears free of headphones, earbuds, or airpods, etc. The presence of headphones (wireless or not) in class is another unnecessary distraction. When we use music in class, you may be given permission to use listening devices, but not until the TEACHER specifically gives you permission to use listening devices.
18. Don't Panic!

Electronic Device Policy 2019-2020

1. The role of cell phone/digital devices in a daily mathematics class is limited to accepted and requested uses during teacher-defined time frames.
 - a. Accepted and requested uses will be defined by the TEACHER and NOT the STUDENT.
 - b. Examples of typical accepted and typical requested uses
 - i. Taking of polls and quick digital checks of comprehension
 - ii. Use of Mr. Hickman's website and Remind account
 - iii. Use of Desmos applications as a learning tool and assessment
 - iv. Creation of a short mathematics video demonstration
2. While there are many students that would prefer to use a cell phone as a calculator in class at all times, the cell phone will not be allowed as a replacement to use of a calculator (scientific or graphing) on assessments. So in order to develop consistent skills related to the use of a calculator to assist in the learning and assessment of knowledge, students should limit their in class calculations to accepted calculators.
3. It is known that many adults and students have issues with separation from their digital devices and they allow themselves to become distracted by non-mathematics uses of digital devices during classroom lecture and classroom practice times. Unfortunately this obsession with the digital device is a distraction to student and teacher alike and should be avoided to prevent the disruption of learning and focus of teacher and student alike.
4. Please keep cellphones/digital devices in closed bag/purse on the ground or in pocket (not lap) during class unless specifically told that the use of the phone/device is permitted specifically by the teacher.
5. Students that fail to follow OFF and OUT of SIGHT Rule during instructional time, practice time, or assessments may be required to serve a conference, receive a referral, given a 0 for cheating, parent email, etc.

Mr. Hickman does not want to focus his time or the class's time on being a cell phone/digital device policeman, but he is extremely annoyed by students' persistent need to avoid mathematics instruction and practice of mathematics through the use of a digital device. Mr. Hickman suggests that if warned to put digital devices away, just do so and move on, so the minor problem of focus is addressed and no major consequences should be necessary. Unfortunately some fail to heed simple warnings about digital devices and receive more unpleasant consequences and create a classroom distraction as a result.