

365 - Wheeled Device Transportation Policy



Purpose

George Washington Academy (“GWA”) seeks to promote student and staff safety on campus, ensure orderly movement of pedestrians and vehicles, and establish clear expectations for the possession and use of electric bicycles (e-bikes), electric scooters, and personal wheeled transportation.

Definitions

For this policy:

- E-Bike: A bicycle equipped with an electric motor used to assist propulsion.
- Electric Scooter: A self-propelled stand-up scooter powered by electricity.
- Personal Wheeled Devices: Includes hoverboards, electric skateboards, kick scooters and bikes (non-motorized), and other similar devices.
- Campus: All GWA property, including parking lots, sidewalks, walkways, plazas, athletic areas, and building interiors unless otherwise specified.

Scope

This policy applies to:

- All students, families, staff, contractors, and visitors are expected to adhere to this policy while on GWA property.
- All times during school hours, extracurricular activities, after-school care programs, and special events on campus.

General Requirements

1. Helmets & Safety Gear
 - a. Students *riding* any wheeled device to or from school must wear a helmet that meets recognized safety standards. Additional protective gear (knee/elbow pads) is strongly recommended.
2. Parking & Storage
 - a. E-bikes, electric scooters, and non-motorized wheeled devices must be parked in designated racks or storage areas immediately upon arrival.
 - b. Devices must be powered off and secured with a lock if possible.
 - c. Devices may not be stored inside classrooms unless expressly permitted by a teacher or administrator (e.g., for special circumstances).

Prohibited Use on Campus

Except as noted below, *riding* any powered device on campus during school hours is not permitted. This includes:

- Riding on sidewalks, walkways, parking lots, and drive aisles.
- Riding during class change, lunch periods, assemblies, or athletic events.

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Exception:

With written permission from a school administrator (for students with medical needs or special accommodations), riding may be permitted in designated low-traffic areas and at designated times with appropriate supervision and safety measures.

Behavioral Expectations

All individuals must:

- Yield to pedestrians at all times.
- Follow posted speed limits and directional signage.
- Not ride on campus steps, seating areas, or indoors.
- Follow all adult directions regarding device use or storage.

Students must also follow the GWA Behavioral Expectations and Student Code of Conduct at all times.

Consequences

Violations of this policy may result in:

1. **Device Confiscation**
 - a. First violation: Device held by the school through the end of the day.
 - b. Repeat violations: Device may be held and released only to a parent/guardian.
2. **Behavior Responses**
 - a. Teacher/administrator warning or reteaching of expectations.
 - b. Parent/guardian notification.
 - c. Loss of riding privileges on campus.
 - d. Disciplinary action consistent with the Student Code of Conduct for repeated or serious infractions.

Liability & Safety

GWA:

- Is not liable for damage to, loss of, or theft of any e-bike, electric scooter, or personal device brought to campus.
- Reserves the right to prohibit specific devices at school if safety concerns arise.
- Is not liable for injury that may occur while using self-transportation

Accommodation Requests

Students with documented disabilities or special needs may request exemptions or modifications to this policy through the school's 504/IEP or administrative process. Requests will be handled in a timely manner in compliance with applicable laws.