MEMORANDUM	Date: 11/10/24	Released (Records):
To:	(✓) PSDS/DICs	(✓)Elem/Sec School Heads
	(✓) Private Schools	( ) Others:
For:	(✓) Information	(✓) Dissemination
	(✓) Guidance	( ) Strict Compliance

ORLANDO E. MANUEL PhD., CESO V
Schools Division Superintendent

By: ASDS CID Chief SGOD Chief AO Atty Signature

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
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Department of Education
OFFICE OF THE UNDERSECRETARY FOR GOVERNANCE AND OPERATIONS

MEMORANDUM
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TO **REGIONAL DIRECTORS**
SCHOOL DIVISION SUPERINTENDENTS
SCHOOL HEADS
ALL OTHERS CONCERNED

FROM **MALCOLM S. GARMA**
Undersecretary
Office of the Undersecretary for Governance and Operations

SUBJECT **REITERATION OF PROTOCOLS ON GADGET USE AND SAFEGUARDING STANDARDS FOR CONTENT CREATION**

DATE 08 September 2026

The Department recognizes the beneficial use of digital platforms for communication, education, and advocacy. While responsible and authorized use of technology may support teaching and learning, unauthorized gadget use and content creation involving learners, school personnel, or school facilities may disrupt instruction, compromise privacy, expose learners to unnecessary risks, and undermine established child protection standards.

In line with the Department's commitment to providing quality basic education in a safe, secure, and motivating learning environment, this Memorandum reiterates policies and protocols on gadget use and safeguarding standards for content creation on school premises, particularly during instructional hours.

Compliance with Child Protection Standards

To uphold the rights, dignity, privacy, safety, and best interests of learners, **public schools shall obtain authorization from the Schools Division Office (SDO)** for partnership activities, especially those involving content creation. The SDO and the school shall ensure that learners and their parents are consulted regarding any potential exposure or representation on social media platforms and that their **consent is duly obtained**. Any activity that may expose learners to exploitation, abuse, discrimination, humiliation, cyberbullying, harassment, or unauthorized disclosure of personal information shall be strictly prohibited.

School heads, Child Protection Committees (CPCs), and DepEd personnel shall

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DepED
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November 3, 2026

To: **All Schools Division Superintendents**

Attention: Division LRP Focal Persons

For your information, guidance and compliance.

BENJAMIN D. PARAGAS PhD, CESO III
Director IV/Regional Director

remain vigilant in ensuring that all school-based activities comply with child protection standards and do not place learners at risk of harm.

Reiteration of DepEd Order (DO) No. 006, s. 2026

Item VI, Paragraph 5(g) of DO No. 006, s. 2026,[1] provides that schools and Community Learning Centers shall prohibit learners and personnel from using cellphones and other portable electronic devices during instructional periods. This measure is intended to minimize distractions and maintain the integrity of the learning environment. Exceptions may be granted in meritorious cases, specifically for:

i. *Academic purposes*: Accessing educational platforms, digital resources, or participating in authorized online collaborative activities.
ii. *Emergency situations*: Facilitating communication during disasters, medical crises, or other immediate safety concerns.

All schools are enjoined to strictly enforce these guidelines to maintain a safe, respectful, and learner-centered educational environment. DepEd personnel at all governance levels are likewise reminded to remain vigilant in safeguarding learners from activities that may adversely affect their well-being, privacy, security, and academic engagement.

For clarifications and/or requests for technical assistance, concerned offices may contact the Learner Rights and Protection Division at (02) 8632-1372 or email at lrpo@deped.gov.ph (cc: weprotectlearners@deped.gov.ph).

For strict compliance.

[illegible]

[1] Guidelines on Ensuring a Safe and Motivating Learning Environment.