

Summer Camp Cell Phone Policy

Purpose:

The purpose of this cell phone policy is to ensure a positive, engaging, and distraction-free environment for all campers during summer camp. This policy is designed to promote safety, encourage meaningful interactions, encourage rest, and prevent inappropriate use of technology.

Policy Overview:

1. Cellphone Collection During Lights Out:

- All campers are required to turn in their cellphones to their small group leaders during **Lights Out** each evening. This is 11:00 PM most evenings unless communicated otherwise.
- Phones will be securely stored and charged overnight in the small group leader's room.
- Campers will be able to have their cellphones with them at all other times, but usage during sessions or small groups may be a distraction.

2. Morning Phone Return & Digital Alarm Clocks:

- **Digital Alarm Clocks:** Each room will be provided with a digital alarm clock to help campers wake up on time and adhere to the morning schedule.
- **Phone Return Time:** Campers may retrieve their cellphones starting around **7:30 AM** from the leader's room.
- **Alternate Pickup:** If a cell phone is not claimed by the time a leader heads to our designated breakfast time, a student can retrieve the phone from their leader in the dining hall.

3. Inappropriate Use of Cellphones:

- Cellphones must not be used for bullying, hazing, or any other form of inappropriate behavior.
- Any cellphone used inappropriately will be confiscated immediately by camp leaders.
- Confiscated phones will only be returned at the discretion of the camp leader, following a review of the incident.
- Parents will be notified if a phone is confiscated for greater than the length of the current session or small group that the phone was being used as a distraction.

4. Cellphone Use During Sessions & Small Groups:

- Cellphones are not to be used during sessions or small group meetings unless explicitly allowed by an adult leader for a specific purpose.

- If a camper's cellphone use is deemed distracting during these times, the device will be confiscated by a leader.
- Confiscated phones in these instances will also be returned at the discretion of the leader, based on the camper's understanding and adherence to the policy.

Enforcement:

- Camp leaders will enforce this policy consistently and fairly.
- Repeated violations of the cellphone policy may result in additional consequences, such as loss of phone privileges for the duration of the camp.

Conclusion:

This cellphone policy is implemented to foster a safe, inclusive, and focused camp experience for everyone. We appreciate the cooperation of all campers and their families in adhering to these guidelines.