

Youth Camp Mobile Phone Policy

At GC Youth Camp, we're all about creating a fun, engaging, and safe environment where every camper feels connected and has an unforgettable experience. We believe that a balanced approach to technology can enhance this experience, promoting both social interaction and healthy habits.

SCOPE

To ensure all campers feel connected and have fun throughout camp, while also prioritising their well-being, including a good night's sleep and minimising impulsive device-related behaviours.

GUIDELINES

- **Daytime Connection:** Campers will have access to their mobile phones throughout the day. This allows them to capture memories, share exciting moments, and connect briefly with family if needed. We encourage campers to use their phones responsibly and in a way that doesn't detract from participating in camp activities and connecting with their peers face-to-face.
- **Evening Device hand in:** To promote a restful night's sleep and encourage positive social interactions free from digital distractions, all mobile phones will be collected and securely locked in a designated storage box each evening after supper.
- **Morning Device Return:** Phones will be returned to campers each morning at breakfast. This allows for a clear break from screens, fostering a calmer evening environment and encouraging campers to wind down naturally.

WHY

This policy has been designed with your child's well-being in mind:

- **Minimising Impulsive Behaviours:** Removing devices overnight helps reduce the likelihood of impulsive behaviours such as late-night social media use, online gaming, or accessing inappropriate content, which can sometimes occur without direct supervision.
- **Ensuring Safety and Security:** Centralising phone storage overnight adds an extra layer of security for valuable devices and safety for all campers.

CONCERNS

We understand that some parents may have specific concerns or require special arrangements regarding their child's phone usage. If you have any concerns, please do not hesitate to discuss them directly with your child's youth leader in your location prior to or upon arrival at camp. We are committed to working with families to find solutions that support both the individual needs of the camper and the overall positive experience for everyone at camp. We appreciate your cooperation in helping us create a memorable, fun, and healthy camp experience for all!

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT AND AGREEMENT

We have read and understood the Mobile Phone - Youth Camp Policy and agree to support and follow the guidelines during the Youth Camp. We understand that these measures are in place to ensure a safe, engaging, and positive experience for all campers.

Camper's Agreement

I agree to follow the mobile phone guidelines as outlined in the policy, including turning in my device each evening and using my phone respectfully throughout the day.

Camper's Full Name: _____

Camper's Signature: _____ **Date:** _____

Parent/Guardian Agreement

I support the Mobile Phone Policy for Youth Camp and will encourage my child to comply. I understand I can raise concerns or special circumstances with my child's youth leader.

Parent/Guardian Full Name: _____

Parent/Guardian Signature: _____ **Date:** _____

Contact Phone: _____

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