



VILLAGE CAMPS MOBILE PHONE POLICY

Both parents and campers please read before agreeing below

Summer Camp is an environment unlike any other. Camp helps young people develop skills in ways not possible at home or at school, skills including independence and self-reliance.

Camp is about building a community, making new friends and learning to trust in others and in ourselves. These opportunities can be significantly lessened by the distraction of mobile phone use.

Of course, we understand and appreciate the importance of the relationship's families have and the need to check in occasionally, but regular and repeated use of phones through calls or texting limits the camper's developing independence and also the opportunity for camp staff and peers to interact and provide friendship and guidance to the camper. Repeated calls home also contribute and exasperate homesickness.

Bearing all this in mind, as well as trying to mitigate chances of cyber bullying and privacy issues regarding social media, photos and videos, Village Camps has the following non-negotiable mobile phone policies for all of our camps.

Village Camps strongly advises campers not to bring mobile phones to camp and will not be held responsible for any loss or damage to the device.

Campers from 7-12 years old will be required to hand in their devices at Reception and will be allowed to have them during the official free time, once per day.

Campers 13 years and over will be allowed to keep their phones from after breakfast and will hand their phones in to their counsellor prior to the evening meal. They will then receive their phones back the next day after breakfast.

Phones are to be turned off and not to be used during any activities, classes, meetings, mealtimes or anytime there is a chance for social interaction.

Further limitations on phone use will be explained to the campers on the first day of camp.

Any abuse of these rules will result in the phone being confiscated and returned only at the discretion of the Director.