

Cell Phone/Electronic Device Policy Form

Sending your children to camp, especially for the first time, is hard enough, but not being able to call or text your child? How will you make it through the day? It's true that most camps, including day camps, ban cell phones and electronic devices. It is listed among the items NOT to bring. Your fears and concerns are understandable, but you will still be able to connect with your kids.

We are so used to being able to call or text anyone in seconds that the thought of not being able to do that with your kids over the summer can be truly frightening. How many times have you texted your child and then start to panic when they don't respond right away? We all need to know that our children are safe and being cared for. Well, you can do it without a cell phone. Here are a few tips and reminders that will hopefully ease your concerns:

- **You will be able to talk to your kids** – Campers will tell you all about it as soon as they get home. You will also have access to their schedule so you know what activities are planned. If they are away, you can call the camp. You can speak with their counselor or the camp director if you need to. Your children will also be able to call you if they want to get in touch.
- **Your child is at camp to have fun** - It's important to remind yourself why you wanted them to go to camp in the first place. You want them to have fun! You want them to make new friends and have the experience of a lifetime. You are fortunate to have the ability to this for your children. Help them take advantage of this opportunity by letting them play outside and interact with other kids without a screen in front of them. They will improve their social skills and increase their self-confidence.
- **It's me, not them** – Do your kids want to talk or text with you all day? You probably need it more than they do. Let them be kids. Let them unwind and unplug. Summer is for escaping the demands of school and peer pressure. Camp allows them to be in a place dedicated to helping kids feel good about themselves.

Here is the Statement on Cell Phones and Electronic Devices from Christ Church Children's Center that you need to read and sign.

If children bring a personal cell phone to Day Camp, its use will be prohibited during Day Camp (8:30 AM to 3:30 PM), and permission from the supervising camp counselors will be required for any use. It's suggested that the cell phone/electronic device be kept in the child's lunch bag or backpack to prevent damage or loss during active play or it may be held by their counselor for safe-keeping until dismissal. Electronic Device use will also be prohibited during normal camp hours (8:30 AM to 3:30 PM). Lost cell phones and electronic devices are not the responsibility of Christ Church Children Center and/or Christ (Mertz) Lutheran Church. Violation of our cell phone/electronic device policy may result in confiscation until the end of the day.

Signature of Parent/Guardian

Printed Name of Parent/Guardian

Your Child's Printed Name

Date Signed