

LIFE CAMPS AUSTRALIA INCORPORATED

Policy in relation to Electronic Devices Campers at Older Teens Camps (OTCs)

This Policy in relation to Electronic Devices:

- encourages campers to:
 - spend more time outdoors;
 - socialise with other campers rather than focusing on friends at home;
 - have a break from the world of technology;
 - fully embrace and “plug into” connection they make with other campers as they “unplug” from their electronic devices; and
- reduces the risk of and stress associated with:
 - a divide between the “haves” and the “have nots” in each cabin;
 - exposure to age-inappropriate material; and
 - unwanted social media activity or cyber bullying.

Seize Life

This Policy applies to Campers at all MTCs and OTCs Camps. Leaders, Children and Young Teen Campers should refer to policies relevant to them.

OUR STRONG RECOMMENDATION IS THAT CAMPERS LIMIT THE ELECTRONIC DEVICES THEY BRING TO CAMP.

- If a camper brings an electronic device to camp it must be used in accordance with this policy. A violation of this policy may lead to the electronic device/s being confiscated for the duration of the camp or to a camper being sent home.
- Campers must sign the attached Internet Usage Policy.
- Any electronic devices are brought to camp at the sole risk of the owner and Life Camps Australia cannot guarantee that such devices will not be lost, stolen or damaged.

ALL DEVICES

- All electronic devices should be used discretely and sparingly. They should not be used at meal times, during games and activities, during devotions or after lights out.
- Users should give careful consideration to other campers when they are using devices. Headphones should be used or the volume kept as low as possible.
- If possible, electronic devices should be inexpensive and have the name of the camper clearly showing.

MOBILE PHONES

- Camp is an opportunity for campers to experience a world beyond home. To make the most of the experience, time should be spent with those people who are present at camp rather than friends or family who are not.

LAPTOPS, NETBOOKS, IPADS, EREADERS ETC

- While these devices are permitted, material on them must be age appropriate.
- If possible, campers should bring a hard copy of the Bible to camp. A Bible will be supplied at no additional cost in the event a camper does not have one.

GAMEBOYS, PSPS, NINTENDO DS ETC

- Use of devices should be strictly limited.



IPOD / MP3 PLAYERS

- Devices should not be used to watch videos, TV shows or movies. Music may be played in a way that takes into consideration the amenity of other campers.

DIGITAL CAMERAS - YES SUBJECT TO CONDITIONS

- We encourage campers to live in the moment rather than just photograph it. Life Camps Australia will nominate a person to attend camps, take photos and make them available on social media so there is no need for campers to take photos. However, we recognise that taking photos is increasingly part of life.
- Pictures should only be taken of leaders and campers with their permission.
- We cannot control what happens with a photograph once it has been taken. We strongly urge campers:
 - to carefully consider the content of their photos before posting them on the internet; and
 - check with other campers before posting, sharing or tagging images of them.

ELECTRICITY AND INTERNET AT CAMP

- There is VERY limited access to electric plugs on camp available to campers. Internet, whilst available, is often sketchy and unreliable.

We encourage campers to leave electronic devices at home.

If you have any questions or want further clarification, please contact the Manager of Life Camps Australia on 0455 236 679 or email manager@lifecamps.org.au

Last reviewed: *June 2021*

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ABN and Manager contact details updated

