

Camper Name: \_\_\_\_\_



## Camp Gilmont Summer Camp Cell Phone Policy

Camp Gilmont recognizes that when children and youth turn off electronic devices, authentic relationships can form, activities can be enjoyed, and memories can be made. We also recognize that these days we may feel anxiety when we don't hear from our loved ones for an extended period of time. For this reason, the Gilmont staff is implementing a new cell phone policy that will begin with Session 1 of the 2022 Summer Camp season.

Campers may bring cell phones or other communication devices to camp this summer. No other electronic devices will be allowed, which includes gaming systems, laptops, drones, etc. Campers will be given time between 11:30am-12:00pm (noon) to communicate with family members. During this time you can expect a phone call or text from your camper, or choose to send them a text or phone call. This time is meant for a quick check in about their day, and to share news from camp or home. Please see the guidelines below and discuss them with your camper prior to their arrival at camp. You also have the option to not send a phone with your camper. Campers who do not bring a device or campers who are finished communicating with loved ones will be given the opportunity to play games at the pavilion.

### Guidelines for Cell Phone Use:

- Phones will be turned in to camp staff upon arrival at camp. Phones should be fully charged and powered off. We will not charge phones at camp. Campers should not hide cell phones in their belongings. If family members choose to bring one device to be shared, campers will be asked to split time when communicating.
- Each day between 11:30am-12:00pm campers will be allowed to get their phones from a designated location to make quick phone calls or send text messages to loved ones.
- This time is NOT for checking social media, playing games, taking pictures, or browsing the internet. Abuse of this time will result in a warning from a staff member, and if continued campers will not be allowed to use their phone for the remainder of the week. If this happens the parent will be notified by a Gilmont staff member.
- As a loved one at home, please make sure to share happy, encouraging news from home (rather than telling them the family pet is sick, for example).
- Please give your camper encouragement if they share that they are tired, they think the food is crummy, if they are feeling homesick, or they didn't enjoy an activity. It takes time to settle into new routines, places, and experiences. If something is shared that concerns you, please reach out to the camp at 903-797-6400 or email [crosby@gilmont.org](mailto:crosby@gilmont.org).
- Camp Gilmont will not be held liable for devices that are lost, stolen, or damaged. Devices will be stored in a locked, indoor location when not in use.
- Camp Gilmont staff will be present with campers, but will not monitor use when campers are on devices. Campers will be trusted to be having appropriate cell phone use and only use this time to contact loved ones for a short period of communication. Parental controls are encouraged.

Camper Name: \_\_\_\_\_



## Camp Gilmont Summer Camp Cell Phone Policy Acceptance

### Guidelines for Cell Phone Use:

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- As a loved one at home, please make sure to share happy, encouraging news from home (rather than telling them the family pet is sick, for example).
- Please give your camper encouragement if they share that they are tired, they think the food is crummy, if they are feeling homesick, or they didn't enjoy an activity. It takes time to settle into new routines, places, and experiences. If something is shared that concerns you, please reach out to the camp at 903-797-6400 or email [crosby@gilmont.org](mailto:crosby@gilmont.org).
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- Camp Gilmont staff will be present with campers, but will not monitor use when campers are on devices. Campers will be trusted to have appropriate cell phone use and only use this time to contact loved ones for a short period of communication. Parental controls are encouraged.

With my signature below I agree to abide by the guidelines of the Gilmont Cell Phone Policy. I understand that if I abuse this privilege I will not have access to my phone until dismissal on Saturday.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Camper Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

I have discussed these guidelines with my camper and understand the consequences of my camper not abiding by the guidelines. I release Camp Gilmont from any and all liability regarding my child's cell phone usage, as well as any loss or damage to my child's electronic device.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date