

Boys & Girls Club of Greenwich: Updated Cell Phone Policy

Effective Date: September 3, 2024

Objective: To create an engaging and focused environment in our afterschool programs, we have updated our cell phone policy to balance the benefits of technology with the need for meaningful, in-person interactions.

Policy Details:

1. **General Rule:**
 - Cell phones and other personal electronic devices are not allowed to be used during after-school program hours. This policy helps ensure that all participants are fully engaged in the enriching programs we offer.
 - If a member is repeatedly asked to put their phone or device away, then a full-time staff member has the right to ask for the cell phone or device to hold onto until the member leaves at the end of the day. The staff will speak to the parents before dismissal.
2. **Designated "Tech Time":**
 - Each site will have a scheduled "Tech Time" period. During this time, children will be allowed to use their cell phones in a supervised setting. This period is intended to give students a chance to use their devices responsibly and under staff supervision.
 - Tech Time schedules will be communicated by each site's staff and will vary according to site-specific programming needs.
3. **Emergency Contact:**
 - The front desk staff is unable to convey messages to members unless it is an emergency.
4. **Exceptions:**
 - Exceptions to this policy may be made for medical or emergency reasons. Please discuss any special circumstances with the site coordinator to ensure proper accommodation.
 - iPad and laptops provided by Greenwich Public Schools will be allowed during designated times for homework and group activities.
5. **Responsibility:**
 - It is the responsibility of each child to adhere to the no cell phone usage policy during program hours and to use their phone only during designated Tech Time.
 - Parents are encouraged to discuss this policy with their children to ensure understanding and compliance.

Thank you for your cooperation in helping us provide a focused and fun environment for all participants. If you have any questions or need further clarification, please do not hesitate to contact your site coordinator or the main office.

Contact Information:

St. Roch Phone: 203-869-3224

New Lebanon Phone: 203-536-1187

Sincerely,

The Boys & Girls Club of Greenwich Team