



### Deerstream Technology Policy (4/2020)

Technology is an ever-present component of modern life. It creates wonderful opportunities and solves difficult problems, and it also presents the challenge to utilize it in beneficial ways while avoiding its pitfalls.

At Deerstream, we recognize that, while students and their families have to contend with the questions of technology in most aspects of life, we have a unique opportunity to connect face-to-face in our community, and we seek to maximize this experience.

One way we express this value is through our lesson designs. Deerstream teachers plan lessons that are interactive and hands-on and which emphasize interpersonal connection. Other than short video clips on occasion, we choose for our Deerstream time to be an opportunity to be fully present to the people around us and to use screen-free materials of study.

Our technology policies follow suit. **Our elementary students are not to bring any technology to Deerstream.** This includes phones; watches with camera, texting, or internet features; headphones; tablets; or another other technological device.

**Our junior division and high school students are encouraged to leave technology at home if possible.** If a device must be brought on campus (for instance, because a student will need use of it outside of Deerstream hours), the following policies apply during the Deerstream day, including breaks, lunch, recess, and dismissal:

- Headphones of any sort are not to be worn.
- Cell phones must be silenced and stored in bookbags.
- Watches or any other devices that have internet connectivity or can receive texts/emails must be silenced and stored in bookbags.
- Student laptops will not be used as a part of class activities and should not be brought to class unless a student will be sharing a presentation or in similar special cases.
- If a student needs to contact a parent during the school day, he or she should inform a teacher. The Executive Director, or her representative, will gladly contact the parent. Similarly, parents may contact their students via the Executive Director during the school day by texting or calling (919) 672-4954. Students and parents should not communicate via student phones or watches during the Deerstream day.
- Deerstream assumes no liability for devices that students choose to bring to campus. Deerstream is not responsible for lost, stolen, or damaged devices.

Students, parents, and teachers may not post pictures of Deerstream activities on personal social media accounts without permission of the pictured students and their parents. Pictures may only be posted on Deerstream’s social media sites with permission of the Executive Director.

I understand and agree to abide by Deerstream’s technology policy.

*\*All Junior Division and High School students must sign the technology policy.*

Parent’s Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Student’s Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_