

## Skids Wadestown

PO BOX 13326, Johnsonville 6440  
PH: 97202163 Email: Wadestown@skids.co.nz  
Website: www.skids.co.nz

## PARENT INFORMATION

### POLICIES

The following policies and procedures apply to the operation of the SKIDS programmes. Your signed Enrolment Form confirms you understand and accept these policies and procedures. Please read carefully.

### DAILY ROUTINE

In order to ensure that the programme is a happy and safe environment for the children who attend and runs smoothly the SKIDS programme follows a structured routine. A 'typical' day or week is as follows:

#### **DAILY FORMAT**

3.00pm – 3.30pm

Children arrive at designated area, put away school bags and spare items of clothing, wash hands and have afternoon tea.

3.30pm – 4.00pm

Children begin homework, reading, work sheet or other quiet activity

4.00pm

Free play time, in playground weather permitting

4.30pm

Special activity time

5.00pm – 5.30pm

Finishing projects and clean-up time

5.30pm – 6.00pm

Small group activity until child picked up by parent(s) / guardian or other authorised person(s)

#### **SPECIFIC PROJECTS**

Monday: Art and Craft

Tuesday: Music and / or Drama

Wednesday: Sport

Thursday: Technology. Additional time allowed for older children to complete homework sheets where required

Friday: Kids club, fun activities

Weekly themes are incorporated into the daily format. The daily format is an indication, only, of the types of activities the children will be involved with at any given time. However, depending on the children's enthusiasm and interest, it may be varied at the discretion of the staff.

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### ADMINISTRATION

#### **BOOKINGS**

The Enrolment form is used to determine the staffing ratios for the programme each day. It is important that any additional bookings or cancellations to part time or full time registrations are made with plenty of notice. If you require a change to your arrangements on the same day please notify the programme manager or area manager before 12noon. We will not be held responsible for changes to bookings after 12noon on the same day.

You may incur the cost of mobile phone calls and other associated costs to verify a booking and / or to establish the whereabouts of your child(ren).

A casual booking should be notified 24 hours prior to the day required. However, in an emergency situation we can accept bookings up until 12 noon on the day required.

**Please remember it is your responsibility as the parent/caregiver to advise us immediately should any information provided on the original application form change eg contact details, custody arrangements etc.**

#### **SIGNING OUT**

The adult assigned to uplifting the child (ren) must complete the daily roll sheet by signing the child(ren) out at the time of pick up. This is for both the safety of the children and for payment records.

Only approved persons will be able to uplift a child as notified by the Enrolment form or advised by parents and / or guardians on a specific day.

#### **LATE PICK-UP**

We are open until 6.00pm daily. Children must be picked up by this time. We have a **late pick up fine of \$1.00 per minute**. Where a child has not been picked up by 6.15pm and staff have not been notified they will proceed to contact people on the 'Child Information and Registration' sheet for someone to pick the child up. **At no time will a child be abandoned**, however, the programme manager is authorised to take all necessary steps to ensure the safety and well being of the child.

### WELL-BEING, HEALTH AND SAFETY

We aim to provide a healthy environment for all children in our programme. We are in contact with a variety of organisations to advise and assist us in this area. We will at all times comply with all relevant health and safety in employment legislation.

You may be required to provide evidence of your child(ren)'s inoculation records.

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### **CODE OF CONDUCT**

SKIDS is about providing a caring environment for your children and we wish to encourage a similar attitude amongst the children. We do not condone any form of discrimination amongst the children or adults associated with the programme. Any issues or information should be discussed in the first instance with the Programme Manager or the Area Manager. Our 'Code of Conduct' is kept in the 'On-Site' Folder.

### **BEHAVIOUR MANAGEMENT**

SKIDS behaviour management procedures are in line with OSCAR approved procedures and similar to the policy of the host primary school. This is documented and available to view in the on site folder.

Our policy is to ensure our environment is a safe and happy place for everyone involved. We maintain an emphasis on being polite, considerate and co-operative. Our rules and codes of conduct, which we expect the children to follow, are explained to the children.

If we experience behavioural problems with a child the parent will be contacted and consulted in regards to behavioural management. If a parent has any questions or complaints on this subject please contact the area manager, do not discuss these matters with staff members while the programme is in progress. We reserve the right to refuse or terminate a child's enrolment if there are unresolved behaviour issues.

### **SICK CHILDREN**

If a child attending the programme becomes unwell or upset we will contact the authorised people listed on the 'Contact' sheet for them to pick up the child(ren) as soon as possible. Please keep children who are unwell at home until recovered, as we do not have the facility to look after sick children.

If a child has been booked into the programme but does not attend due to sickness, please contact the **Programme Manager** before 2.00pm that day.

### **ACCIDENTS AND FIRST-AID**

At all times there is a fully stocked first-aid kit and a trained staff member present on site. However, if we are concerned about a child we may call a parent to pick that child up.

If a serious accident occurs our policy is to ensure the safety and well being of the child first. This may mean an ambulance or other appropriate form of medical help is sort before the parent is called. We do not transport children to parents, doctors or hospitals.

All accidents and incidents are recorded in our Accident and Incident book. Important notes and records of children that are taking medication are also recorded in this book.

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### **MEDICAL REQUIREMENTS**

Please advise the programme of any medication that is to be administered by the programme staff.

### **EMERGENCY PROCEDURES**

Evacuation procedures will be displayed, followed and practised once a term. These procedures are directly linked to the Primary School. Only bags, which contain medication, will be evacuated with the children. If this is relevant to your child please inform SKIDS on the enrolment form (regular medication) and verbally to the programme manager, so that we separate these bags. Please ask for the policy on "Children Carrying Medication" and go over it with your child.

Civil Defence procedures will be followed in the appropriate circumstances. The practice of these procedures will also be conducted once per term and will be recorded in the Accident and Emergency Book.

### **DISTRAUGHT CHILDREN**

Where a child is distressed or upsets and indicates that they may require comforting, our staff may touch your child(ren) in a reassuring manner. Our staff will always conduct themselves in a safe, public and professional manner, but will not turn away a child that needs comforting.

Please ask for more information and or discuss with the area manager if you have any questions or requests.

### **NO SMOKING**

We do not allow staff, parents, visitors or others to smoke in or around the vicinity of any programme activities at any time when they are held on our programme site or within our sphere of control. There will be signs present in the programme to remind everyone of this requirement.

### **CHILD ABUSE**

All of the SKIDS services are committed to the prevention of child abuse with the safety, welfare and well being of the children always the prime consideration. SKIDS and staff will respond to suspicions of child abuse by maintaining a good relationship with the child, recording all observations, impressions and communications.

No one staff member will act alone, with any action taken only after consultation with the area manager. Advice will be sought from the appropriate authority, such as the Police or the Child Youth and Family Services. Instructions given by the appropriate authority will be followed and acted upon.

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### **SERVICES**

#### ***HOMEWORK***

We designate approximately 30 minutes per day for homework help and reading assistance. **We do not do the homework for the children**, and if research material is required then the children will need to bring it with them. As we do not have free run of the school grounds and children are at all times supervised, they will be unable to access the school library after 3.00pm.

We are only able to help the children if we know what their homework is that they have homework or assignment sheets and the relevant material required to complete their homework. We are not held responsible for the completion of homework, checking books, etc, where a child insists they do not have homework.

If there are any issues regarding homework please contact the Programme or Area Manager outside of programme hours.

If a child has special needs please ensure the Programme Manager is aware and the information is included on the Enrolment form.

#### ***FOOD***

Afternoon tea is provided and is included in the fee structure. Generally the food provided will be a sandwich with spread, fresh fruit and juice or water. This can be changed, particularly where there is the opportunity to adjust it to fit with a theme day, for example a theme about dinosaurs may result in dinosaur biscuits. On the days that a variation occurs the food normally provided will still be available.

If your child has any allergies or you do not want your child to participate please include this on the ' Enrolment or Registration Form ' or advise the Programme Manager or Area Manager.

#### ***VISITORS AND EXCURSIONS***

We will, at different times, be arranging for people of interest to visit our programme. If you have any objection to your child being involved please contact the programme manager. There will always be a staff member supervising these activities. If someone other than a parent or school representative wishes to visit the programme, this must be arranged with the programme manager.

From time to time the programme will take children on excursions away from the base site. Parents will be notified prior to the event happening and permission sought. Information will be provided on the nature of the excursion and contact numbers.

#### ***LOST PROPERTY***

SKIDS staff endeavour to remind and assist children about their personal belongings. We encourage personal responsibility by the children and do not accept responsibility for any items of clothing or otherwise lost or left in the school grounds. Unnamed

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property left on site will be handed into the school to add to their lost property at the end of each week.

### **COMPLAINTS PROCEDURE**

As a franchise organisation we welcome the feedback of any parent, care giver or member of the SKIDS community or host of our programme. It is our intention to deliver the best service and customer satisfaction within the standards and guidelines of our service provision.

Please notify the programme manager that there is something you wish to discuss with them or bring to their attention. This can be done verbally or in written form. The Programme Manager will follow up as soon as the matter is brought to their attention outside of the programme hours.

If the matter is not resolved to your satisfaction or it is inappropriate to raise it with the Programme Manager in the first instance it should be escalated to the **Area Manager**.

If you are still not satisfied with the response please contact the SKIDS head office by telephoning (09) 5766602 faxing (09) 5769902 or emailing [admin@skids.co.nz](mailto:admin@skids.co.nz)

## STAFFING

### **RATIOS**

Our programme ratios are 1 staff member for every 10 children, with the ratio reducing to 1 staff for every 4 children when water sports or activities are involved. At all times there will never be less than 2 staff members on duty.

Approved off-site excursions may also require a lesser ratio of children to staff dependent on the nature of the excursion. Parents will be kept fully informed when such events occur.

### **RECRUITMENT**

All SKIDS staff undergo a recruitment and training process that involves Police Vetting (updated every 2 years), First Aid Training, Health and Safety, Behaviour Management, SKIDS systems and performance reviews. At least 2 referees must be provided.

If there are any questions or comments regarding SKIDS staff please contact the **Area Manager**.

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### ACCOUNTS, FEES AND THE HANDLING OF MONEY

#### **PAYMENT OF FEES**

**For your child (ren)'s safety we do not take payment of fees on site.**

For those that wish to **retain a regular booking** payment is required 2 weeks in advance. Shorter-term payments may be arranged by automatic payments directly to the programme bank account. Please see the programme manager and obtain the appropriate form.

Casual bookings must pay at the end of each session. However, if more than one session is booked for a week then payment may be made on the last session attended for that week.

Fees are to be paid in advance to secure your child(ren)'s place. Any problems with the payment of fees or a variation to the standard method of payment is required, please contact the **Area Manager** to discuss.

Late payment will incur a finance charge of 10% and non-payment will result in notice being given of your child(ren)'s enrolment being cancelled. If there are difficulties in meeting payment of fees, please contact the area manager so that alternative arrangements can be negotiated. We prefer a friendly settlement to alternative courses of action.

Any queries regarding your account or payment of fees must be made to **the Area Manager** not the SKIDS staff or the school. Late payments may be handed to our collection agency that will actively seek all monies owed, including seeking legal redress.

The rate charged is dependent on a 'firm' booking. When a child attends extra days, which are outside of the confirmed booking, these will be charged at the casual rate. The 'early pick up' rate is only payable for confirmed early pick up bookings.

Two weeks notice, in writing, must be provided if a child is to be withdrawn from the programme or there is a change required to the days of care, otherwise a 2-week fee is payable based on the previous booking.

**NO refunds** are given for absences and all public holidays are charged at the applicable rate for bookings normally required that day.

#### **FEE STRUCTURE**

You will need to confirm fees with your individual programme.

**CASUAL BOOKINGS** will be taken if space permits. **NO GUARANTEE OF PLACEMENT.** You will only pay for the sessions booked and attended.

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**PERMANENT BOOKINGS.** A discount applies to these sessions. You will be charged for all bookings including absences. Placement is guaranteed.

### **PAYMENT DISPUTES**

Where there is a dispute over payments received or not received, SKIDS will provide statements to demonstrate monies received and banked. Parents will be required to provide proof that payment was made to the **correct** designated place.

Where this cannot be provided the parent will be required to complete payment to SKIDS.

<b>NO cash or payments will be accepted at the programme.</b>
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### **DAMAGE TO PROPERTY**

Staff will take due care and responsibility regarding the structural and non-structural property and its use. Parents or guardians may be liable for replacement costs of equipment or property damaged by their child(ren).

### **SunSmart Policy – Terms 1 & 4**

Children are required to wear hats which protect the face, neck and ears when they are outside between the months of October and April or at anytime the weather conditions dictate the necessity for sun protection.

“No Hat, No Play”. Children without a hat are only permitted to play in supervised/allocated shade areas. All children will provide their own hat for use at the programme.

SPF 30+ Broad Spectrum sunscreen will be made available to all staff and children.

Outdoor activities will endeavour to utilise shade for students and staff at all outdoor events and activities between the months of October and April or at anytime weather conditions dictate the necessity for sun protection. If no shade is available, provision will be made for breaks within a shaded area.