

SRC Summer Youth Recreation Program

Parent Handbook and Policy Manual

Skagway Recreation Center Office
455 13th Avenue
Post Office Box 868
Skagway, Alaska 99840
907.983.2679

PROGRAM

The SRC Summer Youth Recreation Program is a not for profit program made possible by the Skagway Recreation Center. The program was created for 2020-2021 school children grades K-2 and 3-5 who are interested in spending time in a positive and nurturing environment. The program offers fun activities, diverse learning experiences and opportunities for developing friendships that last a lifetime.

PHILOSOPHY

The SRC Summer Youth Recreation Program follows the philosophy of experiential learning. Our goal is to provide children with enjoyable activities and explorations that are meaningful so that they may cultivate knowledge and appreciation through experience. The program focuses are physical activities, the arts, science, nature, history, and culture.

Program Objectives:

- Provide positive experiences
- Provide a wide diversity of activities
- Promote learning through hands-on experience
- Develop self-confidence
- Allow for independence
- Offer opportunities for decision making and problem solving
- Encourage creative self-expression
- Build relationships: healthy patterns of interaction and expressing thoughts and feelings
- Provide a warm and accepting atmosphere

We believe that play, investigation, and the freedom to create will guide children naturally through intellectual, emotional, social, and physical growth. Through fostering an environment of respect and friendship, we offer a well-balanced program of planned activities integrating art, music, science, math, social studies, and physical activity.

HOURS

The SRC Summer Youth Recreation Program 2021 runs NOON-4pm MON/WED for K-2 Grades and TUES/THURS for 3-5 Grades, June 6-24 and July 11-28. Be sure to reference the weekly schedule.

SUPERVISION & RATIOS

SRC Summer Youth Recreation Program child to staff ratio is one staff member for every 14 school aged children 5-12 years old (1:14).

Children are always supervised while attending SRC Summer Youth Recreation Program:

- **Indoor activities:** Staff will be in proximity facilitating activities and monitoring behavior. During free-play and other indoor activities, teachers will visually confirm the presence and wellbeing of each child on the sign-in sheet regularly.
- **Playground:** Staff will allow children a greater degree of freedom when on the playground. Staff will position themselves so that all areas of the playground are supervised and will regularly account for all children by counting children or visually confirming the presence and well-being of each child on the sign-in sheet.

Field Trips: During field trips, each staff member or volunteer will be assigned a group of no more than 10 children. Children will be counted often throughout trips and first aid kits with copies of emergency cards will be taken along.

The purpose for constant supervision of children is to ensure:

- Children are making safe choices
- The environment is safe
- Behavior is managed positively and immediately
- Children are assisted with conflict resolution
- Participants are supported in the development of confidence, creativity, and communication skills
- A quality program is offered

STAFF QUALIFICATIONS

- Extensive experience working with children, parents, and volunteers
- CPR and first aid certified
- Criminal background clearance
- Organized, positive, enthusiastic, energetic, and excellent with children
- On the job experience in developing and facilitating activities for children ages 5-12
- Physical ability and stamina to facilitate children's activities
- Strong customer service experience and professional communication skills

POLICIES

ALLERGY POLICY

It may become necessary to prohibit certain food from the program due to severe allergies.

This ensures that those with allergies are safe and free from accidental ingestion. We appreciate your cooperation on this and will notify you if we have an allergy alert.

BIRTHDAY TREAT POLICY

We want both you and your child to enjoy his/her special day. Feel free to join them for lunch and/or you may bring in a birthday treat to share. This may only include the children enrolled at the center and family members. If you are going to bring a treat, please be sure to provide enough for all the children attending the program. Below are some ideas for treats. If you have other ideas or any questions, consult with the teacher.

Fresh fruits	Cupcakes	Juice Pops
Cake	Brownies	Popsicles
Sundaes	Cookies	Ice cream cones

CHILDREN WITH SPECIAL NEEDS POLICY

SRC Summer Youth Recreation Program strives to meet the needs of **ALL** children in our care. If your child has special needs, we will collaborate on developing and implementing a detailed plan to meet your child's needs before enrollment, including discussing reasonable accommodations and results of evaluations (if you choose to discuss them). We require parental collaboration in determining and obtaining community resources, which may augment the programs resources. We will attempt to accommodate children's needs through recommendations of special needs professionals, however; our limitations may preclude the child from entering our program. We will make every attempt to accommodate children with special needs in the SRC Summer Youth Recreation Program.

CONFIDENTIALITY POLICY

Enrolled children and parents' records will be kept confidential, except:

- As needed by Skagway Recreation Center staff
- Licensing representative from the State of Alaska, Health & Social Services in the case of reporting situations which may require child protective services

As required by Alaska State law AS 47.17.020, the center must report any suspected cases of abuse or neglect of any child at the center, to the nearest office of the Office of Children's Services.

EMERGENCY PROCEDURES AND POLICY

<u>Injury</u>	<u>Fire</u>	<u>Earthquake</u>	<u>Flood/Tsunami</u>	<u>Stranger Alert</u>
1. Administer first aid 2. If severe, call 911 and Call Parents 3. If not severe, staff will fill out an accident report and tell parents at pick-up. If child is authorized to sign themselves out staff will email parent details of the accident/injury.	1. Exit building immediately. 2. Meet at Meeting Place (State Street sidewalk) 3. Take attendance 4. Wait for further direction from Fire and Police Department.	1. Stay inside. Duck and cover under a heavy table or desk. If not possible seek cover against an interior wall and protect your head and neck with your arms. 2. Hold position until ground stops. 3. Wait for further direction from Fire and Police Department.	1. Meet in kitchen immediately. 2. Take attendance 4. Wait for further direction from Fire and Police Department.	1. Child will report, or teacher will suspect a stranger danger situation 2. Teacher will call out the secret word 3. Children will immediately line up for attendance and directions.

FIELDTRIP POLICY

We take fieldtrips daily. A blanket permission slip will be signed to cover all regular fieldtrips. Additional permission slips will be used for special fieldtrips. A first aid kit, cell phone, and copies of children's emergency cards accompany every fieldtrip. Staff will closely supervise the children at all times.

OUTDOOR PLAY POLICY

All children who are well enough to be in attendance will be taken outdoors to play daily. It is essential for your child to wear and/or bring layers of clothing, a raincoat, an extra pair of socks, a hat, and gloves daily. If temperatures fall below 40°F we will not play outside.

GRIEVANCE POLICY

It is important for the SRC Summer Youth Recreation Program staff to work with you on any concerns you may have. We have set up easy steps to follow when you have an issue to be sure it is addressed and resolved. Those who contend with the SRC Summer Youth Program policies or procedures must follow the grievance procedure below:

- **Step 1.** Discuss the matter causing concern with a staff member.
- **Step 2.** If this discussion does not resolve the problem, the parent shall report in writing to the Rec. Center Director. The Director must submit a written reply to the parent within five Youth Recreations of receipt.
- **Step 3.** If the parent considers the response unsatisfactory, the grievance shall be referred to the Municipality of Skagway Borough Manager:

Municipality of Skagway
PO Box 415
Skagway, AK 99840
Phone: (907) 983-2297
Fax: (907) 983-2151

At each appeal level (steps 1, 2, & 3) the parent has the right to have witnesses and to have a third party to represent him/her.

HEALTH AND ILLNESS POLICY

We are concerned with the health and well-being of all children and adults who have contact with your child throughout the day. We request you to keep children who are potentially infectious at home. If you have any doubts in the morning about your child's health, keep them home. Please call the Rec Center (983-2679) by 9:00 a.m. so your child can be accounted for.

COVID-19 POLICY

- **Temperature:** Your child's temperature will be taken upon arrival. If your child has a temperature of 100 degrees or greater, they will be sent home.
- **Masks:** SRC Summer Youth Recreation Program will follow Municipality of Skagway RESOLUTION 21-09R that was ADOPTED in Skagway, Alaska, April 16, 2021. At its meeting of April 15, 2021, the Borough Assembly adopted Resolution No. 21-09R, recommending all person's wear face coverings when inside buildings that are open to the public when six (6) feet of social distancing is not possible, for the duration of the Municipality of Skagway's Declaration of Emergency. Cloth face coverings are still required to be worn by all individuals within indoor municipal facilities when six (6) feet of social distancing is not possible, pursuant to Ordinance No. 20-16. The Municipality's protocol for COVID-19 cases in Skagway has been updated to reflect this recommendation and can be viewed online at www.skagway.org/COVID19.
- **Shut down:** SRC Summer Youth Recreation Program may shut down if a child enrolled in the program is tested positive for Covid-19. Program may remain closed until all contact tracing is completed and we can be sure it is safe to reopen.

COMMUNICABLE AND INFECTIOUS DISEASES WILL NOT BE ADMITTED TO PROGRAM

- Vomiting and/or diarrhea in the 12 hours prior to scheduled time to attend the center
- Temperature of 100 degrees or greater
- Persistent yellow thick mucus
- An uncontrollable or persistent cough

- Pink eye that hasn't been treated
- Strep throat which has not been treated with an antibiotic for 24 hours
- Any rash of acute onset associated with fever or symptoms of illness
- Impetigo with less than 24 hours of treatment with an antibiotic
- Head lice or scabies that has not been treated

If a child displays any of the above symptoms, we will take all steps possible to see that he or she is kept quiet and comfortable until a parent or authorized person can take him/her home. **WHEN YOUR CHILD HAS ANY OF THE ABOVE CONDITIONS, YOU WILL NEED TO PICK THEM UP WITHIN ONE HOUR OF BEING NOTIFIED. AFTER ONE HOUR WE WILL CHARGE \$50.00 FOR EVERY 15 MINUTES YOUR CHILD IS LEFT IN OUR CARE.**

RETURNING AFTER AN ILLNESS

A child who has had an infectious or communicable disease may return to the program in the following time period:

- Covid-19: Clearance from a medical professional
- Chicken pox: Five days after the last blister has scabbed
- Pinworm: After 48 hours of being on medication
- Strep throat: After 24 hours of being on an antibiotic
- Head lice: Signed release from a medical practitioner stating child is free of eggs, nits, and mature lice
- Any others: Must be discussed with the Administrator/Lead teacher
- Fever free for 24 hours
- We will not accept children on the same day they have undergone general anesthesia.

REDUCING SPREAD OF DISEASE

We adhere to the following guidelines regarding Universal Precautions to Prevent Transmission of Blood-borne Diseases:

1. Wash hands before food handling, preparation, serving, eating, or table setting
2. Wear gloves when helping a child with exposed bodily fluids (blood, mucus, vomit, urine, bowel movement)
3. Cover cuts and sores with bandages
4. Immediately clean blood soiled surfaces and disinfect using the SRC bio-hazard clean-up kit
5. Put blood soiled material in bio-hazard plastic bags.
6. Call Municipality of Skagway Public Works to pick-up bio-hazard bag
7. Bag any blood soiled cloth items (not being worn by the child). Machine wash separately in hot soapy water

If staff knows the program to be exposed to infectious or communicable disease, the following action as recommended by the Center for Disease Control will be followed:

Lice & Scabies: Skagway Summer Youth Recreation Program, Infant and Toddler Playgroup & After School Program Lice Protocol:

- 1.) Lice & nits need to be treated by a proven effective treatment and comb. Any child or teacher found with lice or nits will be sent home and allowed to return after a clean check from the clinic.
- 2.) All clothing including jackets, boots, gloves etc. brought from home to the center will be placed in a sealed bag and sent back home.
- 3.) All lunch/snack boxes other than metal should be left home until further notice. All lunches should be placed in a sealed zip lock, paper bag or metal boxes with the child's name clearly marked.

We will take the following precautions at Skagway Recreation Center:

- 1.) Wash and pack all dress-up clothing in sealed bags and place in storage for a minimum of 2 weeks.
- 2.) Wash and pack all material toys in sealed bags and place in storage for a minimum of 2 weeks.
- 3.) Wash counters and floors daily.
- 4.) Check staff and all children daily for lice and nits before entering the building. Children or staff will be sent home for treatment or removal if any are found.

PARENT NOTIFICATION

The SRC will notify all parents of enrolled children by email and handouts sent home with children when outbreaks of the following occur: covid-19, strep throat, impetigo; measles, mumps, rubella, chicken pox; pinworms; head lice, scabies, pink eye or any other highly contagious disease or virus.

Staff will call the parent immediately if their child:

- Bites or is bitten with a skin break
- Falls and hits their head hard
- Has an obvious mark on their head or face
- Is lethargic or hurting
- Becomes sick or develops a fever
- Is involved in an injury needing to be assessed by the local clinic
- Is involved in an injury in which the Emergency Medical Service (EMS) are called

EMERGENCY INJURIES

Every attempt will be made to ensure that your child will be in a safe environment, but no matter how much we monitor conditions, accidents do occur.

Staff is CPR and first aid certified. However, if your child requires more than basic first aid, the following steps will be taken:

1. Staff calls EMS
2. Parents or guardians are contacted
3. If parents or guardians are not available, then the emergency contact is called

All incidents and accidents will be documented on a written report with staff and Parent/Guardian signature. Parents are responsible for cost of medical treatment due to accident or illness while at Program. The EMS ambulance response does not impose charges for responding and assessment, only for treatment and transport. Parents may pay a yearly fee for ambulance transport insurance at the Skagway Municipal Offices.

MEDICATION ADMINISTRATION

Program Staff will only administer medications provided by the parent. Written permission must be obtained from the parent for each individual dose of **over-the-counter** drugs.

Prescription drugs must have a current label with the prescribing child's name, the specific period of time that the drug may be administered to the child, and the dosage. Medicine will be only be administered by authorized staff. MEDICATIONS must be kept in the Rec. Center office and out of reach of children.

Basic First Aid:

- First Aid given will include cold compress, band-aids, and soap & water will be used to treat bumps and abrasions
- Sunscreen, bug repellent and regular skin hydrating lotion will be used as needed and with parent's written permission.

In addition, if the program participants are exposed to any of the above listed diseases or infections, all tables, chairs, counters, shelves, floors, and doors handles in the program room will be disinfected and it will be reported to parents.

OPEN DOOR POLICY

All parents are welcome to observe SRC Summer Youth Recreation Program at any time. We encourage you to stay with your child/children as they warm up to the environment each day. You are invited to come for lunch or to do an activity with your child whenever you would like.

POLICY CHANGES

If policy changes are made during the summer season, SRC Summer Youth Recreation Program will inform all Parents/Guardians by e-mail within 1-week. Parent input is always encouraged.

REPORTING CHILD ABUSE AND NEGLECT

Alaska Statutes require that all licensed childcare providers, who have reasonable cause to suspect that a child has suffered harm as a result of abuse or neglect, must immediately (as soon as possible- no later than 24 hours) report that information to the nearest office of the Office of Children's Services (OCS). Program Staff is therefore obligated by law to report such incidents within 24 hours to the Office of Children's Services. Skagway Summer Youth Program policy is to follow this State Law. Our priority is the safety of the child and the handling of the situation in a confidential and professional manner.

SUBSTITUTE AND VOLUNTEER POLICY

All substitute teachers have been interviewed and have on file three positive references. Volunteers scheduled for specific workshops to work with the children will always be in the presence of SRC staff and children will remain under SRC staff supervision.

VIDEO AND VIDEO GAME POLICY

We may provide occasional movie viewing no more than once a week. A related discussion or activity will follow. During choice quiet activities, children will be allowed to occasionally play personal video games. This type of activity (television, dvd, video, and video games) will not exceed 1.5 hours per day.

DAILY PROCEDURES

ARRIVAL

- Youth Recreation Program begins promptly as scheduled at the North East corner of Playground on 13th Street.
- Child must arrive wearing a mask.
- Child's temperature is taken and recorded by staff.
- Child or Parent/Guardian signs in child.
- Child must arrive with lunch will have time to eat lunch and enjoy free play in the playground area from NOON-1pm.
- Child must arrive with the following gear inside their backpack:
 - **Backpack**
 - Water bottle
 - Lunch
 - Snacks
 - Raincoat
 - Sweatshirt or Sweater
 - Hat
 - Gloves
 - Change of Socks
 - Topical Skin Products (bug dope, sunscreen, etc.)
- IF NEEDED: Parents fill out medication authorization forms

DEPARTURE

- Child or Parent/Guardian signs out child from location designated on program schedule.
- Youth Recreation Program ends promptly as scheduled- no exceptions.

Staff will be available to discuss any incident reports, projects, participation, behavior, and overall observations of your child for the Youth Recreation by appointment or will email a report home upon request.

SNACK AND LUNCH

Our priority is to ensure your child is eating nutritious foods and developing healthy eating habits. Please notify us if your child has any food allergies or dietary restrictions.

- Lunch is at approximately NOON daily.
- If there are multiple children from one family, please provide each child with a separate lunch
- We will notify you if we are concerned with the nutrition level of your child's lunches
- PLEASE, do not send candy, soda, or gum with your child, these items will be set aside and sent home
- Label your child's sack lunch, lunch box, or any other food containers you send
- We will have emergency snacks that may include fruit, yogurt, granola bars, cheese.

STORAGE FOR PERSONAL ITEMS

Children may not store any personal items at the Rec Center. All items must be taken home on a daily basis. Lost and found items will be left in a box outside the facility.

GOING OUTSIDE! BE PREPARED!

When weather is nice, children will be encouraged to spend much of their time outside. Even on slightly rainy Youth Recreations, we will have outdoor activities for at least 30 minutes (minimum). The children will not go outside if the temperature falls below 40-degrees Fahrenheit or if rain and wind conditions are intense. Please send them in layers and with rain gear.

DAILY PROGRAM BASICS:

- Indoor activities may include: Arts, science, cooking, rock climbing, soccer, hockey, basketball, volleyball, badminton, yoga, dance, poi, archery, karate, occasional big screen movie, journaling, creative writing, sewing, drama, music
- Arts may include: Clay, play dough, sculpture with paper mâché, recyclables, tin foil, finger painting, watercolor, puppet making, music, drama, mural painting.
- Science may include: gardening, animal studies/observations, plant collection books and plant identification hiking, magnets, experiments
- Outside activities may include: hiking, bird watching, running games, baseball, basketball, soccer, walking, playing at the playground, gardening, water games, building sandcastles, observing salmon

BEHAVIOR & SAFETY MANAGEMENT

BEHAVIOR GUIDANCE METHODS

Behavior management is carried out in ways to help children develop self-control and assume responsibility for his/her actions. Appropriate behavior is positively encouraged and when children get “off track” they are redirected or are provided with positive behavior choices.

The SRC Summer Youth Recreation Program children will design a set of rules and consequences. All participants will follow these rules.

If a rule is not followed:

- 1- Verbal warning done in private with the child.
- 2- Schedule meeting with parent
- 3- Action plan and consequences which will be tailored to fit the circumstances and individual needs.
(A behavioral plan will be created if necessary: addressing the specific inappropriate behaviors and providing examples of appropriate behaviors to be used in similar circumstances in the future).

SAFETY AT THE REC. CENTER

SRC Staff members encourage and supervise the children to use the equipment appropriately and safely. The outdoor and indoor facilities are evaluated regularly for health and safety maintenance.

Due to the shared use of the Skagway Recreation Center, children will only use the restrooms across from the Rec. Center office and will use the buddy system. Additionally, children will learn and practice the “Stranger Danger” actions to follow if they have an uncomfortable encounter with a stranger (See emergency procedures above and inquire with the program administrator if you have any questions).

The following are NOT allowed in the SRC facility at any time:

- Animals (7 AAC 10.1090). Animals: NONE
- Poisonous Plants (7 AAC 10.1095) Poisonous plants are prohibited.
- Firearms (7 AACd 10.1080). Firearms are prohibited.

SAFETY ON FIELDTRIPS

A first aid kit, cell phone, and copies of children's emergency cards accompany every fieldtrip. SRC staff will closely supervise the children at all times. We will either walk, use the school vehicles or use Licensed Vendors for transportation as needed.

ACTIVITY SCHEDULE

Guidelines for creating our activity schedules are as follows:

- Alternate between active and quiet play
- Alternate group and individual play
- Alternate indoor and outdoor activities
- Provide activities that are age/developmentally appropriate
- Offer choices whenever possible
 - Provide enough time so the children will not feel rushed

Sample Program Schedule

Noon: Arrival, Temperature, Check In

CHILDREN MUST BE DROPPED OFF AT NORTH EAST CORNER OF PLAYGROUND. Upon arrival, child must wear mask. The child's temperature will be taken and recorded, then the child or parent will sign the child in. Child must keep mask on when they cannot maintain 6 ft. of social distancing.

Noon-1pm: Lunch and Playground Free Play

1pm-1:30 pm: Group Circle/Ice Breakers

1:30-2:30 pm: Science Project: Making Crystals!

2:30-3:30 pm: Frisbee and Hula Hoop Games

3:30-4 pm: Storybook Yoga

ENROLLMENT

REGISTRATION

Prior to attending the SRC Summer Youth Recreation Program the Parent/Guardian is responsible for:

- Payment in full unless arrangements are made with the Recreation Director.
- Completed Registration Application Form
- Emergency card
- Parent Handbook and Forms Agreement
- Child Release Authorization
- Sign In / Sign Out Procedure Designation
- Fieldtrip permission
- Sunscreen/Bug repellent permission
- Hold Harmless Agreement
- Covid-19 Program Guidelines Agreement

All the above items must be on file and all fees must be paid for your child to attend the SRC Summer Youth Recreation Program.

Please keep all of your documentation current. It is the Parent/Guardian's responsibility to **inform SRC staff** of phone numbers, new jobs, addresses, persons allowed to pick up children, or any other changes to their files.

Children will only be released to adults designated on their Child Release Authorization form. Children will not be released to unauthorized persons. Any exceptions must be pre-arranged in writing or verbally (staff documentation) and cleared with SRC Staff

WAITING LIST

To ensure the quality of the program, space is limited. Enrollment is on a first come first serve basis and confirmed by payment in full. When possible, parents will be contacted as space becomes available. All paperwork must be on file for child to attend. Payment must be received prior to the day of attendance. An additional charge of \$5.00 per occurrence will be added to payments received late.

DROP IN

Depending on availability participants may pay a \$20 per day drop-in fee if space becomes available. All necessary paperwork must be completed and on file beforehand.