Big White Ski Shuttle

Rules and Expectations

All international students in the Central Okanagan International Education Program are expected to all follow district School Bus Rider Rules as well as all Program Rules and Expectations when travelling on the ski shuttle and while at Big White Ski Resort. Any issues will be reported to the District Principal.

What to Bring

1. Shuttle Bus Pass and Equipment tags
2. Helmet – Students must wear a helmet on the hill. This is a requirement of our Program.
3. Easy to slip-on shoes - Shoes are required to be worn on the shuttle (all ski boots and snowboard boots must be transported in the equipment vans).
4. Appropriate winter clothing – Dress in ski pants/ jacket, warm socks, gloves, winter hat, goggles, balaclava, etc.
    - Bring layers as the temperature on the mountain will be colder than in the city.
5. One school sized backpack – Recommended items for the day include:
    - Fully charged phone.
    - StudyInsured card, their specific Program Emergency Card, and their MSP card if the student has received one.
        i. Keeping photos of these cards on their phone is also recommended.
    - Water bottle.
        i. Students are not permitted to eat or drink on the bus, except water.
    - Snacks and lunch ***for later*** during the day.
        i. Due to the length of day when taking the shuttle, it is recommended students bring snacks and/or lunch even if purchasing food from a restaurant or food truck.
        ii. Big White Restaurant and food truck options can be found HERE
    - Dry socks for the end of the day.
    - Earbuds or headphones. For safety reasons, ***no speakers*** are permitted on the ski shuttle. This is a Program rule and a Transportation rule.

Please leave valuables at home.

Transportation of Ski and Snowboarding Equipment

ALL ski and snowboard equipment MUST be transported to/from Big White in equipment vans.

- Ski/snowboard boots and helmets are considered *dangerous items* and if loose can cause injury in the event of a collision (as per the Motor Vehicle Act Regulations).

Ski Bags and Boot Bag/Straps

For ease of collection of ski and snowboard equipment at pick-up & drop-off locations and Big White Ski Resort, students must use the provided ski bag and boot bag or strap.

- Skis and poles stored in a ski bag
- Ski/snowboard boots and helmet linked together with a boot strap

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Schedule and Location

The Program reserves the right to cancel the shuttle due to unsafe winter conditions (i.e., extreme temperatures, poor weather and/or dangerous road conditions). In the event the Ski Shuttle is cancelled due to weather, either an alternate day will be provided during the semester, or credit will be issued to the student.

1. Refunds will not be issued for trips missed by students.
2. Ski shuttle seats are not transferable.
    - Students are required to travel on the bus they are assigned.
    - Motor Vehicle Regulations require that, for safety reasons, the bus manifest is accurate for riders on a bus.
3. Students need to arrive at their assigned shuttle location 10 minutes before the departure time listed in the schedule.
    - Coordination of several pick-up locations requires the bus and equipment vans to depart at scheduled times.
4. At the end of the day, ski shuttles will leave Big White Ski Resort Happy Valley (Day Parking) promptly at 4pm.
    - Students should arrive 15 minutes before departure to ensure their equipment is loaded into the correct equipment van.
5. Students must ensure to time their last 'ski run' to allow for:
    - Using the washroom
    - Having a snack (no food or drink permitted on the bus)
    - Organizing and loading their equipment into their assigned equipment van
6. Students must travel round-trip on the Ski Shuttle.
    - Students are not permitted to stay up a Big White unless this has been pre-approved by the Program through submission of a travel request.

IMPORTANT: *Bus Drivers and Ski Shuttle Student Supervisors have safety requirements as part of their formal responsibilities. As such, they are informed in advance if a student is going to stay at Big White with their host family or if they have received approval from the Program for a travel request, they submitted.*

7. If a student misses the shuttle at the end of the day, they need to contact their host family to determine a plan for safely getting home.
    - This may include the student paying for the cost of a taxi home.

Additional Ski Shuttle Expectations

8. Since ski shuttles will depart on schedule, it is recommended that students use a 'buddy system' both for the shuttle and when on the mountain.
    a. Students should check-in with their 'buddy' to confirm they are on the shuttle at the end of the day when leaving Big White.
    b. Students should exchange contact information so they can keep in touch if there is an issue any time during the day or when returning the shuttle at the end of the day.

9. Road conditions can change quickly in the winter and ski shuttles may be delayed as a result.
    a. Students should stay in communication with their host parents when travelling back from Big White to let them know what time the shuttle will arrive at the drop-off location.
10. If students are NOT travelling to/from Big White on the shuttle or with a host parent in the program, a travel request form must be submitted.
    a. The student MUST receive approval from the Program prior to travelling to Big White without a host parent or on the district ski shuttle.
    b. Students are NOT permitted to travel to/from Big White with someone who has a N driver's permit.
11. Students should ensure they are taking all belongings with them off the shuttle at the end of the day.
    a. Items left on the shuttle will be collected and kept at the district bus yard.
    b. If a student leaves any items on the shuttle, they should contact their Program Manager so arrangements can be made to have it delivered to the International Education department.

Thank you for following these Rules and Expectations.

This allows everyone to have a safe and positive Ski Shuttle experience.