

Big White Ski Shuttle

Rules and Expectations

All international students in the Central Okanagan International Student Program are expected to follow district [School Bus Rider Rules](#) as well as program expectations when travelling on the ski shuttle. Any issues on the ski shuttle will be reported to the District Principal.

What to Bring

1. Students must wear a helmet on the hill. This is a requirement of our Program.
2. Dress appropriately in ski pants/ jacket, warm socks, gloves, winter hat, goggles, balaclava, etc.
 - a. Bring layers as the temperature on the mountain will be colder than in the city.
3. Students are not permitted to eat or drink on the bus, except water.
4. Students may bring one school-sized backpack on the bus. It is recommended that students use the backpack to bring:
 - a. Water bottle
 - b. Fully charged phone.
 - c. StudyInsured card, their specific Program Emergency Card, and their MSP card if they received one.
 - i. Keeping photos of these cards on their phone is also recommended.
 - d. Earbuds or headphones. No speakers are permitted on the ski shuttle.
 - e. 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](#)
 - f. Dry socks for the end of the day.
 - g. *Please leave valuables at home.*
5. Lighter shoes, which may be worn on the shuttle if there is room for students to store their ski/boarding boots in the exterior storage area (see next page).

Storage of Ski and Snowboarding Boots

6. Ski/board boots are not permitted to be loose or stored under the seats on the bus.
 - a. Due to the weight and design of ski/board boots, they are a *dangerous item* and if loose they can cause injury in the event of a collision (as per the Motor Vehicle Act Regulations).
7. For each individual trip, the shuttle driver and the supervisor on the bus will determine if students may store their ski/snowboard boots under the bus.
 - a. This decision may vary for different dates depending on student absences.
8. If students are interested in possibly storing their boots in the exterior storage, they should bring alternate footwear like slides or running shoes that are not 'bulky'.
9. If it is determined that there is NO ROOM in the exterior storage due to being full of skis, poles, boards, etc., then students MUST WEAR their boots on the shuttle.

Schedule and Location

10. 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).
 - a. Credit will be issued for trips cancelled due to weather conditions.
 - b. Refunds will not be issued for trips missed by students.
11. Ski shuttle seats are not transferable.
12. Students need to arrive at their assigned shuttle location 10 minutes before the departure time listed in the schedule.
 - a. The shuttle will arrive earlier than the departure time listed so equipment can be loaded into the external bus storage.
13. All ski/snowboard equipment must be stored in the exterior storage compartments of the bus.
14. At the end of the day, ski shuttles will leave Big White Ski Resort Happy Valley (Day Parking) promptly at 3:30pm.
 - a. Students should arrive 15 minutes before departure.
15. Students must leave on the same shuttle they arrive on.
16. Students must ensure to time their last run to allow for:
 - a. Using the washroom
 - b. Having a snack (no food or drink permitted on the bus)
 - c. Loading their equipment into the external bus storage
17. 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.
 - a. This may include the student paying for the cost of a taxi home.

Additional Ski Shuttle Expectations

13. 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.
14. 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 know what time the shuttle will arrive at the drop-off location.
15. 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. Students should speak to their homestay coordinator for details about this.
 - b. The student **MUST** receive approval from the Program prior to travelling to Big White without a host parent or on the district ski shuttle.
 - c. Students are NOT permitted to travel to/from Big White with someone who has a N driver's permit.
16. Students should label their ski/board equipment.
 - a. Rental equipment looks similar, and this will minimize equipment accidentally being taken by another student.
 - b. It is suggested students write their name in permanent marker/pen on a small strip of duct tape and around a part of each piece of equipment they bring and store under the bus.
 - i. This includes boots, skis, both poles, snowboard, etc.
17. Students should ensure they are taking all belonging 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 homestay coordinator 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.