

SMUS HOLIDAY PROGRAMS INFORMATION

SMUS Holiday Programs strive to provide high quality, stimulating, educational programs to keep children active and engaged in a safe and nurturing environment. Policies are in place to ensure that parents are fully aware of the standards of care, and the expectations of instructors, in order to maintain the highest levels of participation and enjoyment, while also ensuring optimal safety.

Behavioural Expectations

Instructors will work with children at their developmental level to create appropriate strategies, and will work with parents to develop strategies together. Instructors will monitor behaviour to ensure that a child is modifying his/her behaviour. Where a child fails to meet the **Behavioural Guidelines** and appropriately respond to the Instructor's behavioural requests or otherwise acts contrary to the program policies, this may result in the participant being removed from the program at their own expense, where determined appropriate by the Instructor at their discretion.

Children with special designations due to behaviour and emotional needs are welcome to participate in St. Michaels University School's Holiday Programs. However, in order to ensure that they receive the necessary support, we ask that parents inform us of their child's special designations, and provide a copy of the IEP or diagnosis. It may be necessary for parents to secure the support of an aid or educational assistant in order to join a program.

Health and Wellness

Our goal is to keep everyone healthy at camp, so if your child is displaying any symptoms of a communicable disease (fever, rash, runny nose, cough, vomiting), please make alternate arrangements for care on that day. The instructor reserves the right to send children home if they are dropped off with signs of illness. Please contact the Education Extension office immediately if your child develops a communicable disease.

Vaccination policy

Immunization: Parents are asked to provide immunization records for their children, in compliance with the Ministry of Education policy. At this time, children are not required to be immunized. However, parents may be asked to keep their child at home if there is any risk of contagious contact. We require parents to submit detailed information about vaccination records and history. Children who have not been vaccinated are allowed to participate in our programs, but we ask that parents explain why their child has not been vaccinated.

Please note that if there are any incidences of communicable diseases such as chicken pox or measles, parents of children who have not been vaccinated will be asked to keep their child at home until further notice.

Nut Allergies

Our Junior School facility on Victoria Avenue is a nut-free zone. A few camps for younger children held at the senior campus are also nut-free. Parents will be informed of this in the camp confirmation.

Our Camps are designed and operated for local children in the Greater Victoria region. A few spots in the recreational camps are reserved for non-residents. Please contact our office at 250-370-6120 or by email (edextsion@smus.ca) for more details about registration for non-Canadian participants.

Bursaries: A limited number of bursaries are available. Visit <https://www.smus.ca/programs/extension/holiday> for details.

Screen Time

Children may watch a ½ hour age appropriate video at lunch time or after a long field trip to encourage quiet relaxation time.

Lost & Found

Any items left behind will be held in the Lost and Found until the end of the holiday period at the location where the camp took place. Unclaimed items will be donated to charity. Please label your child's belongings for easy identification and return if misplaced.

Valuables

Children should not bring valuables to camp. Please ensure that clothing, lunch kits, and other personal items are clearly labeled in case they are misplaced.

Summer Holiday Programs ONLY

Swimming

Full day camps held at the Junior School will spend one afternoon each week at the Oak Bay Recreation Center. For children under 8, staffing ratios are 1:3. Non-swimmers will stay in the wading pool and will wear a personal flotation device (pfd) provided by the pool.

LUNCH For camps held at the Senior Campus, a hot lunch option is available. Lunch includes a selection of hot entrees with one vegetarian option, a soup and salad bar, assorted breads, and a choice of beverages. Allergies can be accommodated but please indicate any food sensitivities or dietary preferences when you register.