# Learn to Ski/Ride Program Information

**Learn to Ski/Ride Program**

- The program is for grades K-8. (Kindergarten children must be transported and have an adult on the mountain with them)
- The program meets in January and February from 2:40-4:30 pm.
- The 1st-8th program meets for 7 weeks.
- The Kindergarten Program meets for 6 weeks.
- Student Instructor Training is the last two Wednesdays before the school break.
- This program is **NOT** a field trip of the school, so **NO** Medication, Epi-pens, or others are sent by the school. Your child needs to have and bring with them to Cochran's what they need to be successful in the program.

**Note: the lodge will be open for snacks between 3:45-4:15 pm each Wednesday for the Learn to Ski/Ride participants.**

**Behavior**

- Good behavior is expected at all times before during and after the program.
- Children will be respectful to the people in charge, lead & student instructors, volunteers, bus drivers, and ski personnel.
- Any discipline problems or failure to obey the rules could result in a suspension or expulsion from the program.
- Parents are required to go over the Discipline Guidelines with their children before the start of the program.

**Learn to Ski/Ride Discipline Guideline**

- The document was part of registration and is linked on the program page of the Ski/Ride Program.
- The document covers the Discipline Guidelines for behavior before getting on buses at schools, riding the buses to and from the mountain, being in lessons, behavior on the mountain and in the lodge, and respect for all those involved in the program; to include Lead & Student Instructors, Volunteers, Bus Divers, and Cochran's Staff.

**Weather Conditions & Cancellations**

- Children must dress for the weather conditions. Dress in layers to stay warm.
  - If a child does not arrive with appropriate gear (ex. no mittens or gloves), they will not be able to participate.
- When it comes to wintry weather and cold temperatures, parents must decide if conditions are applicable for their child to participate.
- **Cancellations-** The ski area may cancel due to un-skiable conditions, or we may have to cancel due to unsafe travel conditions. If school closes on a Wednesday during the program, the program is canceled that day.

**Equipment**

- Children must have a helmet to participate.
- They must have warm outwear, gloves, helmet, goggles, boots, etc.
- All equipment that is not claimed at the end of each Wednesday will be put in the lobby of WCS.

**Label Equipment**

- Label all your child's equipment. A lot of equipment looks the same.
- Use painter's tape on the top of the skis or snowboard with your child's first and last name. Check it weekly and refresh when needed.
- **Helmet:** Label your child's helmet with painter's tape on the front brow with their first name. This will help instructors address them by their first name during lessons.

**Lessons:**

- This is an instructional program. All participants are required to attend their lesson and be with their assigned group until dismissed from lessons by the lead or student instructor.
- Lessons are mandatory- if **NOT** in lessons a child will be suspended or removed from the program.
- Lessons begin at 2:40 pm and are an hour for levels 4 and above ending at 3:40 pm.
- All other levels will have lessons until 4:30p. Children will progress at their own pace through levels.
- All NEW participants will begin at level 1 of lessons and can progress quickly, as they demonstrate the skills of each level.

**On the Mountain at Cochran's**

- No one ever skis or snowboards alone. The buddy system must be used, or your child must always be with an adult.
- Everyone is to stay on well-marked and groomed trails **ONLY**. Any reports of off trail will jeopardize your child's continuation.

**Equipment Loan**

- If you plan on borrowing equipment for the program you must sign up for a fitting day and time in November or December.
- This must be done on the Recreation website. A link to the signup page will be on the Learn to Ski/Ride registration page.

## For those Registered with "NO Transportation"

**Parent Transportation to and from Cochran's**

- Parents transporting their children to the mountain should plan to arrive by 2:30 pm for lessons that start at 2:40 pm.
- Participants do not have to be checked in or checked out. They should proceed directly to their lesson level sign.
- If parents are not able to do this each week, they should consider registering their child With Transportation.
- Kindergarten children must be transported to and from Cochran's by a parent or guardian each week.

## For those Registered "With Transportation"

**NOTE:** Children who are registered for **With** Transportation are responsible for the following:

- For getting on all winter gear at school with help from parent volunteers
- For finding their equipment at the mountain, putting it on, and going to their Level sign.
- For knowing whether they are taking the bus or being picked up at the end of the program day
- For those taking the bus, returning their equipment to the Truck/Trailer at the end of each program day.

If this is overwhelming for your child you should consider registering **WITHOUT** transportation or picking up at the end of each day at the mountain.

**Equipment Drop Off- Skis or Snowboards Only (for those who take the bus)**

- Children must have their equipment, Ski or Snowboard, dropped off at the Truck/Trailer before noon each Wednesday.
- The Truck/Trailer will be on the west side of WCS, near the tennis courts, from Tuesday after 5:00 pm until Wednesday at noon.
- Skis go in the trailer.
- Snowboards, and ski bags go in a truck bed.
- **SKI STRAP-** A Ski Strap MUST be used on skis and poles that goes into the trailer.

**Getting Ready to take the Bus to Cochran's**

- Children must wear all their ski/ride and outdoor gear to get on to a bus to go to Cochran's (Helmet, Goggles, Ski/Ride Boots, Gloves, Ski Pants/Jacket, etc.)
- All other items must stay at their school and not go on the bus or go to Cochran's (School Bag, Snow boots, etc.)

**Bus Transportation for grades 1st-8th**

- Transportation to Cochran's is from Williston Central School for grades 3rd-8th and Allen Brook School for grades 1st-2nd.
- Buses leave the schools around 2:15 pm.
- Transportation back from Cochran's is only to Williston Central School arriving around 5:15 pm.
- **Bus Fee**: If your child will be taking the bus either way, both ways or occasionally they **MUST** be registered as a "with Transportation." If they are not, they will not be on the transportation list and not be able to ride.

**Bus Procedures**

- No school or backpack items are to be taken on the bus. No items are to be left on buses. They do not stay!
- No food or drinks can be consumed on the buses.
- School bus rules apply to this program. See the rules on the Learn to Ski/Ride Discipline Guideline.
- Students who have behavior issues on the bus will be restricted or removed from transportation.

**Arrival at Cochran's**

- When children get off the bus at Cochran's their equipment will be on the mountain.
- Children will get and bring their equipment to their Lesson Level Sign where they will put it on.
- Children must be able to identify their equipment and put it on. (Parents – label all equipment and gear)

**Departure from Cochran's**

- At 4:30 pm, all participants will be notified via bullhorn that the program has ended for the day.
- Participants who will be riding the buses back to WCS need to bring their board/skis to the Truck/Trailer
- They will then remain at the bottom of the mountain until dismissed to the buses at 4:40 pm.
- They will be checked off before getting on a bus. Buses leave by 5:00 pm.
- Participants who 'think' they are being picked up at Cochran's, but have not before the 4:40 pm bus loading time, will be put on the bus and transported back to WCS. Parents will have to pick them up at the school.
- Participants who rode the bus to Cochran's but will be staying at the mountain or who will be picked up by a parent later, must have a note stating this.
- **The note must be given to the person checking them on to the bus at school, so it can be attached to the clipboard.**
- Participants who rode the bus to Cochran's but are being picked up by a parent/guardian at Cochran's, see Parent Pickup at Cochran's below, must be signed out by 4:40 pm.

**Parent Pickup at Cochran's**

- Parents who plan to pick up their child who rode the bus to Cochran's **MUST** be at the mountain and have their child checked out by 4:35 pm.
- Clipboards with the check-out sheets will be at the Recreation truck until then.
- After 4:40 pm clipboards will be with the lead instructors at the buses.

**Pickup at WCS School- end of program day**

- Pick up for those riding the buses back from Cochran's will be in front of Williston Central School.
- Pick up at the school is no later than 5:30 pm. Buses will plan to arrive by 5:15 pm each week.
- **Do Not** Park in front of the school or the bus area. Buses and equipment truck need to be able to enter that area.
- Once at the WCS school, children must remain in the front of the school until picked up by a parent/guardian.

**Pickup of Children's School Backpack and Gear**

- Children at WCS will be able to enter the school to pick up their school bags and gear.
- Allen Brook School parents can get their child's backpack after picking them up at WCS. The school doors will be open for you to enter the school; you can try before, but the doors may not be open at that time.