

## Inclusion Program Behaviour & Maturity Agreement Version 1.1 May 11<sup>th</sup>, 2022

WESTERN EDUCATIONAL ADVENTURES INCORPORATED Hereinafter referred to as: "WEA".

PARTICIPANT: \_\_\_\_

PARENT/GUARDIAN(S): \_\_\_\_\_

THE PARENT/GUARDIAN(s) Hereinafter referred to as the: "PARENT".

INCLUSION PLAN Hereinafter referred to as the: "Plan".

INCLUSION PROGRAM Hereinafter referred to as the: "Program"

WEA wishes to make its programs accessible to as many children as possible. To help achieve this goal, WEA has created a program that provides support to children with additional needs so they can attend our camps. Children with support needs can attend the programs with their peers with the help of a dedicated one-on-one inclusion worker. Unfortunately, due to safety considerations in wilderness and higher-risk environments, our one-on-one inclusion program may not be available to all children with additional support needs. The purpose of this policy is to outline how the Program details and share the eligibility requirements to ensure this support will suit your child.

This agreement supersedes the behaviour and maturity agreement.

You may be wondering how we pay for our extra one-on-one staff? Typically, families pay for a space in our program as any other child would. Funding for the worker is provided through a contract with an outside source such as the Provincial Supported Child Development Program (locally operated through Island Health), the Victoria Native Friendship Centre (VNFC) or Island Metis; or via Lifetime Networks or similar. The child must qualify with an applicable organisation to receive this funding. In instance s where a child does not qualify for third party funding, WEA has some financial assistance available. WEA is also open to families paying for the worker privately. In this case the family would need to pay the program fee plus the salary of their worker for the week. Thankfully third-party funding covers this in a vast majority of cases. We are also open to children bringing their own support worker for the program, so long as we can review their resume, references, and criminal record check as we do with all our employees.

Please note that this document is a work in progress. If you have any questions, please contact us.

The registration process for a family wishing to enroll their child in our Inclusion Program is as follows:

- 1. Speak with WEA staff to determine if the program is right for their child. Some of our programs may be more appropriate than others, it depends on the child.
- 2. Disclose all pertinent information about their child in order to ensure a safe and enjoyable experience for all parties.
- 3. Work with WEA staff to complete an Inclusion Plan to help set up their child for success. An inclusion plan outlines the child's preferences, strengths, likes, expectations, as well as the best ways our staff can support the challenges they may face, etc.
- 4. Complete all applicable registration forms as outlined by WEA staff.
- 5. Submit payment.

## REGISTRATION FORM Inclusion Program Behaviour & Maturity Agreement



WEA staff is not able to provide personal care to children or directly feed children. Staff are available to prompt routines and for verbal support. Therefore, children should be able to complete the following personal care tasks on their own, unless accompanied by their own support worker in concert with their support plan.

With the logistics of our wilderness programs at this time, in order for a child to participate in a WEA inclusion program, children should meet the following eligibility requirements and be able to:

- 1. Go to the bathroom on their own, without physical help (prompting is ok). WEA staff are not able to perform personal care.
- 2. Eat lunch/snacks, drink water, wear a hat and apply sunscreen (prompting and some support is ok).
- 3. Change their clothes with minimal assistance (prompting is okay).
- 4. Listen and comply with most instructions from WEA staff with some assistance.
- 5. Be able to adapt to a degree of variation and uncertainty in their routine. Our activity schedules can vary according to weather conditions and environmental factors. Please refer to our online camp brochures which outline a typical day of activities.
- 6. Respect others, objects, and nature most of the time.
- 7. Be OK with being in a camp program with other children of varying ages.
- 8. Have a basic level of boundaries and risk awareness and make safe decisions most of the time. We understand they will need some assistance from their one-on-one staff member.
- 9. Remain seated safely while in transit on our bus with some assistance if needed.
- 10. Hike or walk more than 3km per day, and 7km on Fridays with elevation gain.
- 11. Be willing to accept support from any member of our team as needed.
- 12. Be mobile on two feet, as our current program and activities are in rough terrain and are not accessible for mobility devices. We are working on an accessibility program for the future.
- 13. Must have the ability to remain with the group at all times. Our programs are in higher risk wilderness environments. If your child is a flight risk for any reason, please do not enrol them, as they could fall off a cliff, get lost in the forest, run into an active archery range, etc.
- 14. Be physically safe with others. If your child has a history of physical aggression or combative behaviour, including biting, hitting, scratching, or throwing objects, please reconsider enrollment as our forest location means that we are too far from emergency services to safely assist them.
- 15. Be able to communicate verbally and/or proficiently with communication aids, as well as understand why a safety whistle is used, and how to use it. This is to ensure they are able to remain safe during our program. Our current support worker staff are not proficient in ASL (American Sign Language), so if a child requires this, please contact us as soon as possible so we can try to see if we could hire someone with this qualification, otherwise the child could bring their own ASL support worker. We will be working to offer ASL accommodation with our support staff in the future. If your child is non-verbal/semi-verbal and you would like to confirm whether or not they could participate in our programs safely at this time, please speak with us.



- 16. Be able to express themselves in an appropriate manner through their communication style. Foul language will not be tolerated. Please speak to us if we need to use different communication tools and/or tactics to support your child best.
- 17. Be able to see their surroundings clear enough to navigate their environment safely. While we are working to accommodate children with visual impairments in the future, many of our trails cannot be safely navigated with visual aids (eg: vision canes) due to uneven surfaces and cliffs. We are working to build an inclusion support staff who also have extensive experience navigating our trails independently and can thus safely guide children with visual impairments.

## **Additional Accessibility Considerations**

Please contact us if your child would benefit from the use of accommodation devices or materials in our program, such as noise reduction earplugs, sensory materials, cards illustrating camp activities, social stories, the expected activities for the day, etc. Staff will do their best to support them. It is best that any new accommodation materials be provided to the child prior to camp so they may familiarize themselves with their use in the program. Accommodation devices/materials brought to our program have the risk of being damaged by the elements, such as during our water activities - please bring these at your own risk and understand that we are not liable for their damage or misplacement. We hope to secure a budget for accommodation devices in the future but cannot currently purchase these materials. If there are specific devices that could benefit your child on a daily basis while participating in our program or specific activities (eg: a child with impaired fine-motor movement who may require a modified bow & arrow in order to participate in archery) which you require financial aid to purchase, please let us know as soon as possible so we can seek out potential support through grants. As for any printable materials, (such as cards illustrating activities, schedule transitions, etc.) you may create them or reach out to our inclusion worker to create them for you.

By signing and submitting this registration form, the Participant/Parent(s)/Guardian(s) of the Participant acknowledge having read and agreed to the above Behaviour & Maturity Agreement.

By signing this agreement, I acknowledge that I am nineteen (19) years of age or older.

Signature of Participant/Parent or Guardian

Date

Name of Parent/Guardian