



# Windermere Secondary School

3155 East 27<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Vancouver, BC V5R 1P3  
Telephone: 604-713-8180 \* Fax: 604-713-8179

THE WINDERMERE WAY!	
R	RESPECT
E	EXCELLENCE
A	ATTITUDE
C	COURAGE
H	HONESTY

## Windermere Parent/Guardian Consent Form Local Field Studies and Off-Site Activities

The purpose of this form is to inform you that as a regular part of their studies, students will leave school grounds for learning activities, and to seek your support and permission for your child to participate. Field studies and excursions provide students with learning experiences. **However, should you not wish your child to participate in these excursions, school staff will assign your child other learning activities at the school at your request.**

**This is an important document. Please review the contents of this Consent and Acknowledgement of Risk form carefully prior to providing permission for your child to participate in school excursions. Clarify any questions or concerns through the office with your child's teacher BEFORE signing it.**

### PROGRAM/ACTIVITY INFORMATION

The Vancouver Board of Education, School District # 39, and staff of Windermere Secondary School recognize that valuable and unique learning can take place outside of the school building. We are therefore encouraged to make use of the total resources available in the local community to meet curricular goals. During the school year, student groups will engage in activities within the local community that take them out of the school building and, on occasion, off school grounds.

#### Regular Excursions Within Walking Distance of Windermere Secondary:

Activities may include, **but are not limited to**, the lower risk activities such as plant identification and cataloging, sketching, place based learning, walking/exercise, mindfulness/stress management strategies, etc. Locations may include, **but are not limited to**, places within walking distance (6km or less) such as

- Neighbourhood walks
- Renfrew Park/ Renfrew Community Center
- Renfrew Ravine
- Slocan Park, Trout Lake and other nearby parks
- Local libraries
- Local stores, restaurants (when relevant to curriculum, such as cultural connections to social studies or language courses)

Learning activities located off school grounds and within walking distance of the school will happen periodically throughout the year. **This form applies to each course that distributes it from September 2023 through to June 2024. After signing this form, further consent for such activities will not be required for that course.** If additional field studies occur further from the school (such as downtown, UBC, SFU, North Shore, etc.) or involving higher risk activities (swimming, back country hikes, etc.), then activity specific consents will be issued for such field studies outlining additional trip details.

## SCHOOL RESPONSIBILITIES

The board will make every reasonable effort to ensure or ascertain that:

- a. The staff involved are suitably trained and qualified.
- b. The students are adequately supervised over all aspects of the program/activity.
- c. The location(s) used are appropriate and safe for the activity(ies) and group.
- d. A Safety Plan is in place to identify and manage known potential risks.
- e. An Emergency Plan is in place to deal with an injury or illness to any of the students.
- f. The school administrator will always be informed when students are off campus.
- g. If a parent/guardian does not wish their child to participate in these local excursions, please contact the teacher to arrange an alternate study program for the day.

## CONSENT AND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF RISK

**While school staff will take reasonable steps to prevent injuries to students, some degree of risk is inherent in the nature of this activity and may occur without fault on the part of the student, school board, its employees or agents, or the location where the activity is taking place. By allowing your child to participate in this activity, you are agreeing that the activity described above is suitable for your child, and that there is a risk of injury associated with the activity.**

Potential known risks include the following:

- Injuries related to vehicle crashes enroute to and from activity area;
- Becoming lost or separated from the group or the group splits up;
- Injuries related to slips, trips and falls or to lifting, carrying and putting down packs
- Foot, leg or knee injuries (e.g. blisters and sprains)
- Other risks normally associated with the participation in the activity or the environment.

My child has been informed that they/he/she is to abide by the rules and regulations, including directions and instructions from the school's staff, at all times.

I, \_\_\_\_\_ (Name of parent/guardian) give permission for (Name of student)

\_\_\_\_\_ to participate in excursions within walking distance of

Windermere Secondary School, including those listed on page 1 and similar locations.

I understand that my child may be exposed to a risk of injury due to accident while participating in this activity.

Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Name (*Please print*): \_\_\_\_\_ Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

**Comments:** please include any restrictions or limitations which would prevent your child from fully participating in this trip, or any other special concerns which Board staff should be aware of surrounding your child: