



Howe Sound Secondary School – Outdoor Leadership Program Student Application

What is the Outdoor Leadership Program?

The Howe Sound Outdoor Leadership Program is in its seventh year of development at Howe Sound. Previously, the program ran for over a decade at Don Ross. The program will offer courses in winter and summer outdoor skills and various community projects. An emphasis on the development of leadership and cooperative skills through outdoor activities will be balanced with assignments based on outdoor-related issues and themes. Total credits for students will be 8, with four Physical Education 11 or 12, and four for Outdoor Leadership 11 or 12.

Currently, the course may include skill development in teambuilding challenges and initiatives, outdoor safety, introductory wilderness first aid, nordic skiing, backcountry skiing and/or riding, day hiking, backpacking, route finding with compass and GPS, climbing, flatwater canoeing, kayaking, sea kayaking, and overnight camping using industry standards as a guideline for course development and instruction. Course fees and fundraising will cover costs for outdoor recreation activities, including leadership and instruction. Some students may wish, based on their experiences, to certify in areas of interest to them.

When will it be offered?

In fall semester, students will take the Outdoor Leadership course during their regular timetable. In addition students will also take part in the yearlong Outdoor Leadership Physical Education course. In total, students will be spending between 25 and 30 days in the field to complete the course curriculum.

Where will it be offered?

At Howe Sound Secondary School and the surrounding environment. One half of the course will be taught in a classroom setting and in the areas surrounding the school, with the rest taking place in the outdoors on various trips.

What will it cost?

Course fees for the year will be \$1000. Additional fund-raising by course participants will be used to pay for disposable items, gear maintenance, and guide fees. Course fees are due to the Howe Sound Secondary School office no later than June 10th, 2016. Accepted students who miss the payment deadline risk losing their spot in the program.

Are there any prerequisites?

Participants need to have completed the 2015-2016 school year with 'G' or 'E' work habits in all of their courses. Students with 'S' work habits are encouraged to apply, however their work habits must improve prior to the year's end. All students must be full-time, full-year students at HSSS.

Who should apply?

Successful applicants should be prepared to spend considerable time in a coastal, moist winter/spring environment. An interest in outdoor activities and participation in group activities is essential, but one need not be an accomplished outdoorsperson. Applicants could be as varied as individuals interested in becoming certified mountain or backpacking guides or sea kayaking guides to people interested in a career in journalism that might include writing copy for tourism promotion or articles for outdoors magazines. The ability to carry heavy weight and a high level of aerobic fitness is mandatory for risk management purposes. Applicants should also have a strong record of academic success and an established history representing an ability to work hard to meet course objectives.

How should one apply?

Complete the full application on the attached form, complete and attach your written paragraph, secure a signature from your parent or guardian, another from your teacher reference, and submit the package to jharwood@sd48.bc.ca by Monday, May 9th, 2016. Successful applicants will be given a welcome package and must submit tuition fees by June 10th to be entered into the class.

Student Name: _____

Student Email: _____

Student Grade for 2016-2017: _____

Teacher Reference: _____

Parent Name: _____

Parent Email: _____

1. What outdoor activities and/or sports are you actively involved in?

2. What leadership skills do you believe you possess? Give an example of a situation in which you demonstrated leadership.

3. How would you describe your ability to communicate with peers and adults? How well do you work with groups?

4. What certifications, if any, do you currently possess? (for example, Snowboard Instructor, Level One, or St. John's Ambulance First Responder)

5. How would you describe your interest in outdoor activities?

6. What particular skills would you bring to a program like the Howe Sound Secondary Outdoor Leadership Program? What is your current fitness level? How many hours per week do you do exercise?

7. Please attach a short, word-processed essay (300-400 words) to your application which explains why you want to be involved in the Outdoor Leadership. Include a discussion of your strengths and weaknesses as a student, as well as a statement of specific goals you would hope to achieve in the course.