

Frequently Asked Questions

1. *How many parent volunteers can I bring?*

Only TWO parent volunteers will be permitted at the Living Campus.

2. *How do we arrange bussing and how is it paid for?*

NSTS will be making the arrangements for all busses to and from the Living Campus. You will receive a confirmation email from the bus company with your pick-up and drop off times.

The cost of bussing will once again be covered by the DSBN. Schools do not need to collect or pay invoices for bussing to the Living Campus.

For any questions regarding bussing please contact Rob Berketo at NSTS, 905-346-0300.

3. *How does our day at the Living Campus begin?*

Your day at the Campus begins with busses dropping everyone off at our mid-level parking lot. Our Outdoor Adventure Guides will be there to greet you. After a quick welcome, everyone will grab their backpacks and hike one of our trails up to the Living Campus. Please make sure all students, teachers and the two parent volunteers are dressed and ready for this hike when they get off the bus.

Once you reach the Campus everyone will drop off their backpacks in a classroom, have a quick bathroom break and head out for your day of Adventure.

4. *Are food or beverages provided for students?*

During cold fall and winter days, students will enjoy a hot chocolate around the campfire. We have a hydration station, so refillable water bottles are recommended. We do not provide food or lunches.

5. *Can we have lunches delivered to the Living Campus?*

Yes, but ordering, arranging, receiving delivery, paying for and distributing lunches to students is the responsibility of the classroom teacher, our Outdoor Adventure Guides will not be able to assist with this.

Some schools have ordered pizza for their classes from the Pizza Pizza at 495 York Road, Niagara-on-the-Lake, 905-687-1111. If you are interested in Pizza or Food delivery our address is 1 Taylor Road, Niagara-on-the-Lake.

6. *Can we bring hotdogs and marshmallows for a cookout?*

Yes, but you must arrange all cookouts with our Outdoor Adventure Guides at least a week prior to your arrival at the Campus.

Please be aware of the following...

The Outdoor Adventure Guides will build and tend to the fire during the cookout. They will also provide skewers for cooking.

It is the classroom teacher's responsibility to manage the distribution of materials and food to students as well as supervise the students cooking over the fire. When it's windy the students will only be cooking from one side of the fire pit. There should be no more than 6 cooking at one time. The lessons and safety of how to cook is the classroom teacher's responsibility (but the Outdoor Adventure Guides will certainly be present to support you in managing this experience).

7. What is the WildZone?

The WildZone is a natural learning environment within one of our forested areas where students enjoy unstructured, risky, free play. It is a place for students to run, climb, jump, splash in puddles, make mud pies, crawl through logs, create, build and play. Depending on the day students will have approximately 30 – 45 minutes in the WildZone, allowing their creative, adventurous spirit to lead them.

Time in the WildZone will encourage children to:

- think creatively
- rely on their senses
- assess risk
- test their boundaries
- use their outside voice
- resolve conflict
- improvise solutions
- learn through play
- wonder why
- get messy
- go barefoot
- develop their strength

....and So Much More!

We ask that all teachers and parent volunteers wait in our TD Treehouse (outdoor classroom) while their students are in the WildZone. Our Outdoor Adventure Guides will be supervising your students from a distance during this free-play time. Please do not take pictures of students in the WildZone.