



# PARENT AND CHAPERONE INFORMATION

Any questions, please call us at 912-638-3849

## **I. Parent Information:**

Driftwood Education Center is located on St Simons Island, one of the Georgia Barrier Islands, surrounded by miles of salt marsh and acres of maritime forest. The program we offer is intended to be a valuable extension of classroom studies. We have incorporated math, science, language arts, and social studies (based on state Performance Standards) into our curriculum, and developed these topics into activity-oriented classes. Your child will have an opportunity to learn about: marine biology, salt marsh ecology, reptiles, low country cultures, and other science related areas. We also provide a chance for social growth through learning to live and work closely with others in a community setting. If you have any questions before your son or daughter arrives please call the education director at 912-638-3849. Scroll down to learn more about the chaperones duties.

## **II. Chaperone Information:**

Our college-educated instructors will be teaching classes and assisting through meals and evening activities. However, we need your help! It is important for chaperones to supervise students the entire time they are at our center. Dorms must be supervised by an adult throughout the night. Supervision is especially important between classes, during meals, and rest periods. Please read the following information to fully understand your role as a chaperone and your responsibilities in the Driftwood community.

## **III. Your Role:**

### **A. Classes and evening activities:**

We ask that you attend all classes and evening programs with your assigned field group, as we need at least one adult with each field group at all times. Please help with discipline. Our class time is limited and our instructors have a lot to share with the students. We encourage the chaperones to participate in the activities.

### **B. Dining Hall:**

Most of the time, the dining hall will be shared with guests from Epworth by the Sea. We ask that at least one adult be present at every table during the meals. Serving and clean-up procedures will be outlined at the first meal, however, there will be Driftwood instructors at every meal to assist you. Proper manners should be emphasized. Upon leaving the dining hall, students should be accompanied by an adult.



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## **IV. Dormitory Supervision:**

Your largest responsibility is dorm supervision. Your room will be in between two larger rooms, each sleeping up to 8 students in bunk beds. The teacher in charge of the trip will assign dorm groups prior to arrival.

Encourage your students to participate in conservation of resources, for example:

1. Shut all windows before turning on heat or air conditioning.
2. Turn off lights and heat or air conditioning before leaving for the day's classes.
3. Turn off showers and faucets when not in use, and let us know of any water leaks.
4. Please do not let students regulate thermostats.

The head teacher will need to be in charge of dispensing all medications, prescription or otherwise. This includes Tylenol, cough drops, and other over the counter medicines. Please do not give any medication to a child! In the event of an emergency at night, contact the head teacher and Driftwood director. They should be informed of all injuries or illnesses immediately.

## **V. Driftwood Education Center Policies**

1. For the sake of privacy, students should not go into any dorm but their own.
2. No food, gum, or candy in the dorms. This will attract animals and contribute to the litter problem. No radios, electronic games, or other similar devices should be used. No using cell phones during class times.
3. Please do not wash clothes or shells in the sinks or showers. Sand and mud will clog the drains. There are spigots located on the side of some cabins for your use.
4. Phones are off limits to students without permission from the head teacher and Driftwood reserves the right to send a student home for extreme discipline problems (fighting, vandalism, violence, etc.) or for illness.
5. Driftwood Education Center is located on the property of a Methodist Conference Center; therefore no alcohol is permitted.
6. Smoking by adults is allowed outside and away from the group, with the condition that cigarette butts are disposed of properly.
7. Vending machines should only be used at the end of the day after classes, and an adult must always accompany children.



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## **VI. Final Parent Information and Assistance**

### **A. Housing & Meals:**

While your child is here at Driftwood they will be staying in our dormitory style cabins. Students will sleep in bunk beds supervised by two adults in an adjoining room. There are bathrooms and shower facilities in the cabins, as well as dressers for storing clothes. Students will need to provide their own linens, pillows and toiletries. All cabins have heat and air conditioning.

Meals will be served in the dining hall by an experienced food service staff. The kitchen manager has gone to great lengths to provide healthy meals with many choices to suit adults and children, including vegetarian options. If your child has any dietary restrictions due to health or religion, please note these on the health form so that we may accommodate them.

### **B. Supervision & Discipline:**

The teachers and chaperones accompanying the school group, as well as the Driftwood staff, will provide supervision. Your child's teachers are required to be on site at all times, and adult chaperones assist with free time, meal time, and night time supervision. We also ask that teachers and chaperones attend all classes and evening programs.

Driftwood reserves the right to send a student home for extreme discipline problems (fighting, vandalism, violence, etc.) or for illness. We hope to never exercise this right, but students displaying inappropriate behavior or having a illness will need to go home.