KidZone

2019-2020

Parent Information Packet

For more information about KidZone contact:

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Welcome to KidZone at the J!

What is KidZone?
KidZone is our afterschool program. We pick up students from school and bring them to the J for activities, recreational classes, and homework help. Our program has options for Kindergarten through 8th grade. We are open from school pick up until 6:00 pm.

What schools do you serve?
As long as we have at least 3 students, we will pick up at these schools:
- Elementary Schools: Beth Yeshurun Days School, Condit, Herod, Horn, Kolter, Lovett, Parker, Schlenker, and Trafton
- Middle Schools: Emery-Weiner, Meyerland, Pershing, Pin Oak, and Trafton

Please note that if we have registration of fewer than 3 students for a school, we will not offer that bus route.

What do kids do in KidZone?
We offer a variety of activities for the kids each day in KidZone.
- Once children arrive at KidZone each day, they put away their things in their dedicated cubby and have a KidZone-provided snack.
- Monday through Thursday we have a dedicated “Homework Room” where kids will be supervised while they complete their homework. Ms. Linda is there to help out whenever it’s needed.
- We take advantage of our facility throughout the week by taking our kids to the gymnastics center, tennis center, playground and gym to sample activities in those places.
- We have crafts, board games, sports, and free play for the kids to participate in, rotating activities on a schedule so that kids have the opportunity to try new things.
- As we are a Jewish Community organization, we will celebrate Shabbat together each Friday. We share our week’s successes with each other and enjoy the blessings over the candles, grape juice, and challah together. We do not require all kids to participate in the prayers, but we do ask that everyone be respectful and join us in celebrating friendship and community as a group.

What if my child is registered for classes?
The J offers recreational classes in Tennis, Gymnastics, Sports, Dance, Theater, and Art. If your child is registered for KidZone, you get two great benefits:
1. We will take your child to and from their classes. We will ask you as part of your registration to keep us up-to-date on your child’s class schedule. If your child’s class ends after 6:00 pm you will need to pick up your child. KidZone ends at 6:00 pm, so we will not do pickups after that.
2. If you register for your recreational class through the Camp Office, you will receive a 25% discount on class fees as a member of our KidZone family. This does not include Team Gymnastics or JCCS, but does include all other recreational classes. You will need to complete your registration through the Camp Office to get the discount (it won’t be applied if you register online.) Please contact Kathy Sabia to register!
My child only needs a ride to the J for a class – is that an option?
Yes! We offer a Transportation Only option for kids that have classes at the J but don’t need a full afternoon of care. How does it work?

- Register for Transportation Only instead of KidZone for a reduced price.
- We will pick up your child from school and bring them to the J to get ready for class. Then we will escort them to class.
- Your child’s class must begin by 4:15 pm. For classes beginning later than 4:15 pm, you will be charged the full KidZone price for the day.
- You must pick up your child when the class is over. If we bring your child back to KidZone after the class is over, you will be charged the full KidZone price for the day.

What age kids can participate in the J’s afterschool program?
KidZone: Our full care afterschool program is for kids in Kindergarten through 6th Grade. Once kids are in 7th grade they are considered “Roamers” and do not require supervision by J Staff.

Transportation Only: We can provide transportation to the J for kids in Kindergarten through 8th grade. We will escort kids in Kindergarten through 6th grade to their classes, while our 7th and 8th Grade Roamers will be responsible for getting to their classes.

Do I need to be J Member to participate in KidZone?
Yes, your child must have at least a Program Membership at the J to participate in KidZone.

This sounds great – how much does it cost?
The fee schedule for each component is below. A few things to note:

- You must put down a $150 deposit to secure your child’s spot in KidZone. If you put down your deposit by July 31, you receive a 5% discount on your KidZone fees for the school year.
- You must register each semester for KidZone and Transportation Only services.
- You have 2 payments options:
  - You can pay by EFT (electronic funds transfer) monthly. Charges occur:
    - September through December for the fall semester
    - January through May for the spring semester
  - You can pay the balance for the semester up front via credit card
- If you need financial assistance or an adjusted payment plan, please contact the Camp Office.
Your fee is based on the number of days per week that you use KidZone and Transportation Only services:

### KidZone / Transportation Monthly Fees

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th># Days / Week</th>
<th>KidZone (includes pickup from school, snack, activities, homework room, delivery to classes, and 25% discount on registered classes)</th>
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These monthly fees do not include HISD ½ Days or Vacation Days. They also do not include days that the J is closed. Please see the included calendar for which days are included in each of the packages.

**What if I need care when school is out?**

We have two additional packages that you can purchase with KidZone for those days when school is out, but your kids need something fun to do!

- **HISD ½ Day Package - $185**
  This package covers all of the HISD ½ days (see the included calendar). We will pick up your kids from school after early dismissal and bring them to the J. They can bring their lunches and enjoy an afternoon of activities until 6:00 pm pick up.

- **Vacation Package - $1650**
  Our Vacation Package includes:
  - KidZone Only Camp - August 19th - 23rd
  - Thanksgiving Break – Monday, November 25th – Wednesday, November 27th
  - Winter Break - December 23rd through January 3rd (note we are closed on Christmas Day and New Year’s Day)
  - Spring Break Camp – March 16th – 20th
  - School Out Days: Martin Luther King Day (January 20th), Cesar Chavez Day (March 30th), and Good Friday (April 10th).

We will offer camps to our members for these vacation days, but if you purchase the package you will save over $400. The package cannot be prorated, but you can buy each camp individually like our regular members if you don’t need all of them.

You will also have access to AM and PM care for a full day’s coverage (7:30 am – 6:00 pm) during Vacation camps if you purchase the package, where our regular members will pay an additional fee.
Are there any additional fees not included in the packages?

A few, yes.

- If you are later than 6:00 pm to pick up your child, we will charge you $1 per minute that you are late. Things happen (like traffic!) and we understand. Please keep us informed if you are running late. If you are late more than once per semester, we will begin charging a late fee.
- We ask you to please keep us informed when your child is not at school and does not need to be picked up. If our buses are delayed because we are not informed of your child’s absence more than once per semester, we will charge a fee of $10 per incident.

Who should I contact with questions?

- Registration:
- Update Class Schedule:
- Same Day Transportation/Class Changes:
- Anything else:

KidZone & Transportation Brit (Covenant)

We all have responsibilities to make sure that KidZone is successful for everyone. We want to work together to make sure that our kids are safe, having fun, getting their homework done, and getting to their activities on time. We share this Brit with you so that we can work together to have a great year together!

J’s Children & Camping Department Responsibilities

- Communicate effectively and efficiently with parents and kids
- Keep the kids, staff, and bus drivers safe
- Ensure the kids have fun and stay busy with activities
- Escort kids to all of their activities
- Keep our camp environment safe and clean
- Provide appropriate supervision for all of our kids

Parent Responsibilities

- Maintain current JCC Membership
- Complete all forms prior to first day
- Provide current information (phone/address/medical)
- Provide staff with information about major events in child’s life that may affect child’s behavior and/or attitude
- Provide KidZone staff with information about classes which child is enrolled and any changes in their class schedule
- Inform KidZone on any day child will not attend or ride bus by 1:30PM
- Inform KidZone, in writing, if anyone other than parent will pick child up
- Sign kids out of KidZone each day at pickup
- Support staff in working with your child
- Attend meetings called by KidZone in regard to child/program
- Keep KidZone staff informed of school closure days in advance
- Pick up child by 6:00PM each day or agree to pay a late fee of $1.00 per minute
Child Responsibilities

- Meet the bus on time each day
- Check in to the assigned classroom directly from bus or upon arrival
- Be respectful of the JCC building by walking (not running!) and keeping noise down in office areas
- Behave appropriately on bus, in building, and at all times
- Adhere to rules and regulations of program
- Take care of equipment and supplies
- Do not purchase snacks/drinks at the café or vending machine around the JCC
- Have fun! 😊
# 2019-2020 KidZone Calendar

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### KidZone Packages
- **Fall KidZone Package**: School pickup - 6:00 pm, plus escort to/from classes
- **Spring KidZone Package**: School pickup - 6:00 pm, plus escort to/from classes
- **Vacation Package—$1650**, includes:
  - KidZone Camp (5 days in August)
  - Thanksgiving (3 days in November)
  - Winter Break (8 days in December)
  - Spring Break (5 days in March)
  - School’s Out Days (January, March, April)

### HISD 1/2 Day Package—$185,
- September 27
- October 18
- November 8
- January 17
- February 14

Camp Day is from school pickup to 6:00 pm

### Holidays—JCC Closed / No KidZone or J Camp
- September: Labor Day, Rosh Hashanah
- October: Rosh Hashanah, Yom Kippur
- November: Thanksgiving
- December: Christmas Day
- January: New Year’s Day
- April: Passover
- May: Memorial Day, Shavuot

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