



School Days at the J Parent Information Packet

For more information about School Days contact:

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SCHOOL DAYS AT THE J PROGRAM OVERVIEW

You bring the learning and we bring the fun! School Days at the J is a brand-new program this year that will provide virtual learning support programs for grades Kindergarten through 8th grade. Your child can come to the J, attend virtual classes in a self-contained group and have access to our support specialist for any help they need to complete their assignments. We will provide fun activities through the day while students are not attending a class or completing a school related assignment. Join us for some educational fun!

SCHOOL DAYS AT THE J- FULL DAY DAY (7:30AM-3:30PM)

Our goal is to provide a safe environment for your child to thrive and remain motivated to attend virtual classes, complete their educational requirements and provide brain breaks and enrichment enhancers through fun JCC activities.

- Elevated distance learning experience
- Brain breaks and fitness activities during downtime
- Social interaction
- Help with logging on to classes
- Assist with assignments where possible
- Enrichment programs
- Real-time interaction and guidance

SCHOOL DAYS AT THE J- EXTENDED DAY (7:30AM-6PM)

Our goal is to provide a safe environment for your child to thrive and remain motivated to attend virtual classes, complete their educational requirements and provide enrichment enhancers and other activities throughout the day. In addition, your child will participate in additional fun/impactful JCC activities when they finish the school day.

- Elevated distance learning experience
- Brain breaks and fitness activities during downtime
- After school activity rotation including Art, STEAM, Sports, Tennis, Gymnastics
- Social interaction
- Help with logging on to classes
- Assist with assignments where possible
- Enrichment programs
- Real-time interaction and guidance

SCHOOL DAYS AT THE J- HALF DAY RECREATIONAL PROGRAM (2PM-6PM)

This track is for children who have the afternoon off and want to have a fun and safe day at the J. We are bringing a camp-style day right into the school year which includes games, art, friends, sports and more!

- Focus is on FUN!
- Rotation of activities such as art, tennis, sports, STEAM activities, gymnastics and more
- Social interaction
- Enrichment programs
- Real-time interaction and guidance

Evelyn Rubenstein Jewish Community Center
School Days at the J
Frequently Asked Questions

WHAT IS SCHOOL DAYS AT THE J?

We developed School Days at the J specifically for students in Grades Kinder- 8 that need supervision for virtual learning. Our program provides children the benefits of supervision and socialization in a healthy and safe environment. In addition to supervision during virtual school, School Days at the J will also offer enrichment activities during breaks and downtime. Extended day option provides homework help when needed and a rotation of activities in addition to the school day. The half day recreational program will provide the perfect way for your kids to get physical, socialize, and have fun (whether your child's school is in-person or virtual).

DO I NEED TO BE A JCC MEMBER TO PARTICIPATE IN SCHOOL DAYS AT THE J?

No, our School Days at the J program is open to all Kindergarten – 8th grade students. Member and non-member pricing is included below.

HOW WILL VIRTUAL LEARNING WORK?

We will oversee your child's remote learning, including assisting with logging in and out of all platforms, turning in assignments online, and helping with schoolwork as time allows. While we are not a school, our goal is to support learning. We cannot offer personalized education but will check for completion and help students with questions. The learning piece will remain the responsibility of the teacher and parent. We will do our best to assist when possible.

WHAT WILL THEIR SCHEDULE LOOK LIKE?

Every school and every teacher may have differing schedules - It is impossible to determine a specific schedule until closer to the start of school. We are planning that during "typical" school hours, students will participate in virtual classes or quiet individualized work including (but not limited to) learning tools, puzzles and reading. We recognize this looks different for children in grades K-2 than it does for grades 3-8 and will make adjustments as needed. In addition to virtual learning, we will take time for lunch, outside exercise, brain breaks, snack and more. We understand the need for balance and our schedules will reflect that.

After 3:30 PM, students will participate in our more typical afterschool programming including inside/outside activities, arts and crafts, science experiments, athletics and more.

IF MY CHILD FINISHES THEIR CLASSES AND WORK, DO THEY HAVE TO STAY IN THE CLASSROOM? CAN THEY PARTICIPATE IN ANOTHER ACTIVITY WHILE THE OTHERS FINISH THEIR WORK? In order to support social distancing and the need to keep cohorts from intermingling, we will try to group children together who have similar schedules. Within that group, if the majority of the children are finished with their work, we will make accommodations for them to participate in another activity while the rest of the students complete their assignment. If there are only one or two children that finish early, they will be able to work on individualized assignments, independent reading or approved activities while they wait quietly at their table.

MY CHILD HAS AN INDIVIDUALIZED EDUCATIONAL PROGRAM (IEP). HOW WILL YOU SUPPORT THEM? While we will do everything possible to help all students succeed, we are not certified to accommodate IEPs. Children with an IEP plan are welcome to attend the program, but it will remain the responsibility of the teacher and parent to accommodate their educational and functional needs.

WHAT IS THE CANCELLATION AND REFUND POLICY AT SCHOOL DAYS AT THE J?

If you withdraw from the program for any reason on or before August 24th, you will receive a full refund less a \$50 cancellation fee. If you withdraw for any reason after August 24th, there are no refunds.

If the J temporarily closes a classroom for 5 or more school days due to Covid-19, we will issue a credit or refund. If your child's school reopens for in-person learning and you withdraw your child, we will issue a full credit on the days left in that month. Should you choose to withdraw from the program for future months; cancellation requests must be made in writing to Sasha Akatkin at sakatkin@erjchouston.org. Once you have withdrawn from the program, we cannot guarantee future space.

HOW WILL GROUPS BE FORMED AND HOW MANY KIDS PER GROUP?

Groups will remain the same throughout the six weeks to the extent possible which creates the "cohort." Students will be assigned to a group with a maximum of 10 children and 2 staff members. Groups will be created to keep children in the same grades and schools together when possible. Cohorts will be permitted to engage within their group but will not be permitted to engage with other cohorts during the school day. Groups will have their own designated learning space at the J. Groupmate requests can be made but are not guaranteed. Program-wide gatherings will be prohibited.

DO YOU OFFER FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE FOR SCHOOL DAYS AT THE J?

Financial assistance is available for need-based families who are currently receiving scholarship aid. To register, please contact Sasha Akatkin at 713-595-8166. Scholarship will be applied at time of registration and a 50% payment is required. Scholarship will not be available for anyone who registers online.

Families who are not currently receiving financial assistance but would like to apply for financial aid must complete an online FACTS application and include financial information for review including W2, tax returns and any supporting documents reflecting a change in income due to COVID-19 if necessary. Financial aid is limited and awarded on a first come basis and may take up to one week to be reviewed. You will receive a call once a financial aid decision has been determined in order to complete your registration. A 50% payment is required at time of registration. Please contact Nohemy Vasquez at nvasquez@erjchouston.org for more information regarding financial assistance. All financial applications must be **completed (including all required financial information)** by August 28th to be considered.

Financial aid application - <https://online.factsmtg.com/signin/4FTSN>

WILL YOU BE PROVIDING SNACKS OR LUNCH?

Children will need to bring a non-perishable lunch daily. We do not mandate what individuals bring in their own lunches, however, in order to observe all dietary, allergy, and health issues, children are not permitted to share food brought from home. The J will provide a morning snack to all students. Children should bring additional snacks from home if they get hungry during the school day.

WHAT WILL MY CHILD NEED TO BRING TO SCHOOL DAYS AT THE J?

Laptop/Tablet: Devices should be fully charged prior to arrival and a charger and other needed accessories should be brought in as well. We recommend Windows 10 and all Windows updates should be made before sending your child to School Days at the J.

Water Bottle: Children must have a water bottle as we strongly encourage drinking water throughout the day. Bottle re-fill stations will be located throughout the campus and staff will require their group to take water breaks in-between activity periods.

Sweatshirt or jacket: It can get chilly in our facility and we strongly encourage families to send a sweatshirt or jacket.

Headphones with a microphone: allows students to independently engage with their virtual programs.

Username and password information: Any usernames and passwords that your child could need to access devices, emails, portals, websites and other learning platforms. You will also be required to fill out a schedule of their online meeting times and classes so that we can support their time management.

Change of clothing: children in grades K-2 are strongly encouraged to bring an extra set of clothes to leave in their cubby at the J.

Any school supplies specifically requested by your child's school or teacher. We will provide pencils, pens, and standard supplies as available.

A book to read.

Please make sure ALL items coming in with your child are labeled.

HOW WILL CARPOOL WORK?

Full Day and School Day Drop-off: Carpool will run from 7:15AM-7:30AM each morning.

Recreational ½ Day at the J Drop-Off: Carpool will run from 1:45PM-2:00PM.

Full Day and After School Pick-Up: Carpool will run from 5:40PM – 6:00PM for all grades.

Parents and passengers are not permitted to exit their vehicle at any time. In the event that your child will need help, please be prepared to drive to the main parking lot in order to exit your vehicle and assist your child.

HOW WILL SCHOOL DAYS AT THE J STAFF COMMUNICATE WITH PARENTS?

Our staff are always there for any parent questions/concerns. All communication will be shared electronically to the email addresses provided by the family at the time of registration. It is the responsibility of the family to let the J know of any email address changes.

WILL MY CHILD BE ABLE TO RECEIVE MEDICATION?

Yes. A member of the leadership team will administer any over-the-counter medication deemed necessary or administer prescription medication when we receive all appropriate medical forms. All prescription medication must be in the original container with the pharmacy label. All over-the-counter medication must be in the original packaging and clearly marked with your child's name.

WHAT INFORMATION DO I NEED TO SUBMIT FOR MY CHILD?

A health history form must be submitted prior to the start of the program. It is the responsibility of the family to inform us of any changes to the information submitted on the health history form. Parents must certify that their child is up to date on all required immunizations appropriate for the child's age. If not, they must provide appropriate documentation for a medical exemption. (Certification by parent or legal guardian required).

WHAT ARE THE J'S HEALTH AND SAFETY PROTOCOLS?

The safety and health of our students, families and staff is our number one priority. Our facility has been and will continuously be cleaned, disinfected and sanitized. Our staff has undergone extensive training on best practices in preventing the spread of the COVID-19 virus. For details on the J's daily health screen, our specific COVID-19 symptom protocols, sick policy and other safety practices, please [click here](#).

WILL MY CHILD NEED TO WEAR A MASK?

All children in graders Kindergarten and up will be required to wear a mask at all times, except while eating snack and lunch.

WHAT ARE YOUR BEHAVIORAL GUIDELINES?

School Days at the J uses positive guidance techniques including redirection, anticipation of potential problems, positive reinforcement and encouragement while avoiding competition, comparison or criticism. We are planning a fun experience for all and insisting on increased health and safety practices. This is a unique time and some of the children may have some difficulty with the transition from home to our care. We will do all we can to help make this transition as smooth as possible; however, we need everyone to agree to certain guidelines. Consistent and clear expectations will be reviewed with the students. You will be asked to pick up your child should their behavior compromise safety and/or well-being of all staff and children.

AS A PARENT, WHAT IS EXPECTED OF ME?

Communication will be of paramount importance throughout this program. As a parent, you will need to make sure your child comes to School Days at the J prepared with their assignments. You will need to provide our program administrators with any teacher correspondence or updates. You will also need to provide your child's student ID # and passwords so we can help them log in (if needed). Our staff will reach out as needed for additional expectations and requirements. This is a team effort and we look forward to partnering with you!

SOUNDS GREAT! HOW MUCH DOES IT COST?

- The Full Day program (7:30AM-3:30PM) is \$1,950 (member)/ \$2,178 (non-member) six-week session.
- The Extended School Day program (7:30AM-6:00PM) is \$2,250 (member)/\$2,478 (non-member) six-week session
- The Half Day recreational program (2:00PM-6:00PM) is \$160 (member)/ \$195 (non-member) per week.