

Community Spaces Permission (Mid/High) - Revised for the 2023-2024 school year and beyond

Mid High classes are in an ideal location with many nearby facilities such as tennis courts, softball diamonds, green spaces, bike paths and outdoor rinks, for access to fantastic community spaces that enrich our school-based programs. Therefore, we consider these spaces an extension of our immediate campus. We have defined the Community Spaces based on 2 levels (refer to Table 1 and map) to ensure we can implement similar instructional considerations relative to the needs of the program (e.g. communication with school, emergency preparedness, etc.). Teachers will carry first aid kits and cell phones and will let the office know which space they will be traveling to. Additionally, teachers will follow the [School Physical Activity, Health and Education Resource for Safety](#) when working within the Community Spaces programs. These guidelines will be included in the Critical Incident Response Manual. Any circumstances that require immediate or urgent attention will also refer to this same manual.

We have identified the following two levels of Community Spaces appropriate for different class settings:

Levels	Description	User Groups
Level 1. Common Areas (A-G) Purple on map below	<p>Utilized by classrooms to provide outdoor space for curricular connections as well as "Daily Physical Activity" (DPA) for our entire school. These spaces will be regarded as "on-site," requiring the same level of staff supervision as a typical classroom. Ratio is one class to one teacher.</p> <p>There will not be a defined schedule for trips to these locations; however, parents will be able to access their children in the same manner as if they were on the immediate school grounds through communication with the office.</p> <p>Activities Include: Category 1: 'Low Risk' (see details here)</p> <p>Scooter orientation is required prior to using scooters.</p>	- All Students
Level 2. Extended Areas (H-L) Red on map below	<p>Utilized by Physical Education and Outdoor based programs. Recommended ratio is 1:30 or 1:15 depending on the activity, mode of transportation and/or distance.</p> <p>There will not be a defined schedule for trips to these locations.</p> <p>Activities Include: Category 1: 'Low Risk' with the addition of biking and cross-country skiing (category 2) (see details here)</p> <p>Bicycle orientation is required prior to using bikes.</p>	Students registered in these courses.

Note: No matter the level of risk, staff and students must follow the guidelines found on this website: <https://myspheres.ca/en/> under Activity Guides

Parent/Family provided equipment:

Guardians are required to inspect and all equipment brought to school for their child(ren)'s personal use to ensure it is safe to use (ex. bike, scooter, helmets, skates, skis, etc.)

LEVEL 1: All mid-high students

A: South Field Treed Area: (260 m)

- Semi treed area connected to the south end of our field.
- Hazards: Some uneven terrain.

B: Uxbridge Community Greenspace (550 m)

- Small community park one block from school through residential
- Hazards: Uneven terrain, traffic (30-40 km/hr.)

C: West Campus Natural Park (650 m)

- Paved Bike path through natural park around duck pond. Could be used for biking, running, orienteering etc. Amphitheater for outdoor class overlooking the pond.
- Accessible through residential or via sound wall nature park. 5 minute walk.
- Hazards: Uneven terrain, static water, traffic (30-40 km/hr.)

D: U of C Campus/Facilities (1.0 km)

- A mix of sidewalk, pathway, green spaces, tennis courts, buildings used for any of the following reasons: DPA, outdoor classroom, field trips, curriculum connections, extra-curricular, or PE classes
- Accessible through residential, through crosswalks, or one set of lights to cross 24th Ave. 10-minute walk.
- Hazards: Uneven terrain, separation from group, traffic (30-50 km/hr.)

E: Foothills Athletic Park/ McMahon Stadium/ Father David Bauer/ Volleydome (700 m)

- Tennis and Beach volleyball courts, Track & Field, Red & White Club
- Accessible through residential and one set of lights to cross University Dr. 10 minute walk.
- Hazards: Uneven terrain, traffic (30-50 km/hr.)

F: Westmount Elementary Campus (1.8 km)

- Accessible via sidewalk through residential/sidewalk and one set of lights to cross 16th Ave. 20 minute walk.
- Hazards: Uneven terrain, traffic (30-50 km/hr.)

G: University District Field, Natural Areas, Playground, Public Spaces (1.5km)

- A public commons area with seating, two playgrounds and multiple green spaces to utilize, this is a valuable space that allows students to explore and learn in the community areas close by the school.
- Access is either from a paved pathway that travels parallel to Shaganappi Trail NW, or a marked crosswalk from the West Campus Natural Area across 24th ave NW.
- Hazards: Uneven terrain, traffic (30-50 km/hr), pedestrians, cyclists

If there are any seasonal hazards, or a unique activity to be noted, teachers will communicate with parents to highlight what potential difficulties may be encountered on a particular field trip or outing.

Acknowledgement

By checking the box below, you indicate that you have read and understood this agreement and are aware that you are accepting the same conditions pertinent to on-campus activities (e.g. financial responsibility for any medical assistance) that the staff of WESTMOUNT CHARTER SCHOOL may deem necessary for your child's health and safety and also for any damage to third persons or their property that your child may cause. Finally, please remember to update your child's medical status should it change throughout the year.

I consent for my Student to travel to and participate at the identified Community Spaces (A-G) locations. * * **(THIS WAS COMPLETED BY FAMILIES IN THE RE-REGISTRATION)**

LEVEL 2: All Grade 7-12 Physical and Outdoor Education based programs (ex. Outdoor Ed, Peaks, Dandelions, PE classes, In My BackYard, etc)

H: Community Bike Loop and Douglas Fir Trail (2.2 km)

- The Bow River Pathway section between Edworthy Bridge and Crowchild Trail is an excellent loop for cycling while still remaining within a safe and manageable distance from the school. This ride is perfect for classes building fitness and provides access to natural areas within Edworthy Park. Accessed through West Campus Blvd and well marked crossing on Bowness Rd.
- Hazards: Uneven terrain, other cyclists, traffic (30-50 km/hr.)

I: Shouldice Park(2.8km)

- A City of Calgary picnic area, providing further views of the Bow River and an accessible playground.
- Access via the Bow River Pathway from Edworthy Park on the north side of the river. Or from Montbalm Park down 52nd st NW on a separated bike lane.
- Hazards: Uneven Terrain, other cyclists, traffic (30-50 km/hr.)

J: Saint Andrews Heights and Parkdale: Pathways, Green Spaces, Playgrounds (1.2km)

- Multiple playgrounds, green spaces and the elementary campus provide a valuable extension of the community spaces.
- Access is either the bike trail from West Campus Natural Area, or a large, well marked, crosswalk at Uxbridge Dr and 16th Ave.
- The pedestrian crosswalk at Memorial Drive and 29th St provide access to the memorial drive bike pathway.
- Not included in this area are Foothills Hospital Campus, the community area south of 5th ave sw and the area west of 27th st sw
- Hazards: Uneven terrain, traffic (30-60 km/hr), pedestrian, other cyclists

K: Montgomery Bike Park and Montalban Park (2.5km)

- A bicycle skills park with a small pump track and a green space that overlooks the bow river valley.
- Access is the crosswalk across Shaganappi Trail by the Alberta Children's Hospital
- Hazards: Uneven terrain, Traffic (30-70 km/hr), pedestrians, other cyclists

L: West Confederation Park (2.7km)

- A bicycle pump track operated and maintained by The City of Calgary.
- Access is over the University of Calgary CTrain station on quiet residential streets.
- Hazards: Uneven terrain, traffic (30-50 km/hr), cyclists, pedestrians

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Map of Community Spaces

