

LA SIMBIOSIS NATURE SCHOOL

Handbook

A note from our director –

Welcome to La Simbiosis Nature School. We are delighted to welcome you into our community!

The proceeding information is to provide clarity for families regarding La Simbiosis Nature School, our policies and procedures, as well as explain the enrollment process. Please pay particular attention to our sections on programming and communication.

Warmly,

Kylie Takashima
Program Director

Table of Contents

Page	Contents
4	I. Programming
5-6	A. Philosophy of Education <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Overview 2. Mission and Vision 3. Nature School 4. Bilingual Education 5. Social-Emotional Learning
7	B. Tuition Schedule
8	C. Cancellation Policies
9-14	D. 2024 Calendar
15	E. Schedule & Locations
16-18	F. Routines <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Readiness <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Clothes b. Lunches c. Backpacks 2. Community Circle 3. Food 4. Absences 5. Scheduling Changes
19	F. Guests Do's and Don'ts
20	II. Health & Safety
21-22	A. Health <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Child Illness 2. Medications
23-24	B. Emergency Policies & Procedures <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. First Aid 2. Allergies 3. Lost and Missing 4. Unwanted Visitor 5. Severe Weather & Natural Disaster 6. Wildlife

	7. Air Quality
25-26	<p>C. Staff Qualifications, Training and Responsibilities</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Toileting 2. Ratios 3. De-escalation and Positive Handling 4. Anti-Bullying 5. Training
27	III. Communication
28	<p>A. Confidentiality</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Mandated Reporting 2. Proof of Immunization 3. Media Release
29-32	<p>B. Forms to Complete and Return</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Overview 2. Handbook Compliance 3. Photo & Video Release 4. Emergency Contact Form 5. Assumption of Risk; Waiver; and Liability Release

Programming

Philosophy of Education

Overview

La Simbiosis takes a holistic approach to child development, in which children learn through nature, relationships, and intentional language development. We believe that, in a nourishing context of trust, children can take healthy risks to learn about themselves, others, their environments, and good communication. The teaching is based on a combination of student interest, NAAEE (National American Association for Environmental Education) standards, CA preschool standards, Teaching for Biliteracy Framework, and problem-based learning- all at developmentally appropriate levels in play-based exploration and Montessori centers so that children are equipped with life and academic skills.

Mission & Vision

La Simbiosis Nature School strives to cultivate symbiotic relationships with nature and our community while developing environmental stewards and increasing the value of minority languages and cultures through research-based language instruction, child-centered pedagogy, and practical social-emotional development skills.

Our vision is to provide space for children of diverse backgrounds to explore, imagine, create, and problem-solve while learning language and skills to make them successful in communication, relationships, nature, and life endeavors.

Nature Program

Studies have repeatedly shown the various benefits of being outdoors for extended periods of time. In nature, wonder, relaxation, and exploration occur naturally, and, as teachers, we provide purposeful structures within this environment for play, problem-solving, engineering, art, collaboration, and critical thinking. Children climb, play, and work within their own limits; we do not perform tasks for children, assist them in climbing, carry them or their belongings, or mandate a specific form of conflict resolution, but scaffold them and provide strategies in achieving goals in their own time, allowing them to develop motor skills, persistence, global stewardship, problem-solving abilities, and empathy among peers. Any discomfort we encounter in all aspects of our school experience fosters resilience. Furthermore, as teachers, we can address the needs of the whole child in an environment that naturally engages our mind, body, and spirit.

Bilingual Education

Multiple languages open the world to children- forming new relationships, fostering empathy, and activating different parts of the brain. Doing this at a young age is so fun! Through games, sentence frames, music, routines, total-physical-response, and friendship, children gain listening comprehension and speaking skills along with the foundation for reading and writing skills.

Our program ratio is 80/20 : Spanish/English. Unlike language immersion philosophies, our bilingual pedagogy benefits simultaneous bilinguals, and native speakers of any language to develop Spanish and English by making connections, finding patterns, and developing language strategies. The time designated for English is important for making connections and building English Language competencies. Spanish is always welcome in this space. During our designated Spanish time, we aim to provide instruction and activities solely in Spanish, to elevate its value and enforce the expectation of practicing this language.

Social-Emotional Learning

Space. Co-regulation. Kindness. Collaboration. Problem-solving.

We want each child to be flooded with positive interactions and experiences, affirming them as individuals and their place in our community. We focus on equipping children with strategies for regulation and problem-solving, based on observing and listening to each other's needs, desires, and ideas. Space, stories, scaffolding, and reflection are important parts of this process. At times, gentle redirection, natural consequences, or separation, may be necessary for the benefit of the child and the community. As a group, we exercise a sociocracy in decision making to foster an understanding of consent, individual value, and social problem-solving.

Tuition Schedule

La Simbiosis Nature School offers 3 programs with a one-time application fee of \$30.

	Description	Cost	
Preschool	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ages 3-6 • Days offered: T, Th, F • partial-week options available • Hours: 9AM-1PM • Childcare and education program • Caretakers invited to participate in community circle and lunch times • Bathroom independence required • Proof of vaccination required 	3 days/week	\$960/month
		2 days/week	\$715/month
		Enrollment fee: 1st month's tuition due 1 week prior to start date	
		Tuition: due the 1st of each month	
Caretaker-and-Kids	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ages birth-6 years • Days offered: W • Hours: 9AM-11:30AM • Seasonal programming: September-May • Caretakers participate with their child(ren) in programming 	1 day/week	\$90/month
		Enrollment fee: 1st month's tuition due 1 week prior to start date	
		Tuition: due the 1st of each month	
Summer Camp	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ages 3-10 • Days offered: M-F; full-week registration required (except for students enrolled in preschool) • Hours: 9am-2pm • Seasonal programming: June-July • Weekly or monthly enrollment • Bathroom independence required • Proof of vaccination required 	\$1495/month	
		\$395/week	
		Registration fee: 30% of tuition due at registration with remaining 70% due one week prior to start date	
Day Drop-In	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ages 3-10 • Days offered: T, W, Th, F • Hours: 9AM-1PM • Childcare and education program • Bathroom independence required for preschoolers • Limit of two times per month 	Preschool: \$80/day due at drop-off Caretaker-and-Kids: \$25/day due at arrival	

*15% discount for every additional child

Preschool program tuition payments are collected September-May. December tuition is halved for the long break. Thanksgiving Break, Mid-Winter Break, and Spring Break are not prorated, but covered by tuition. Tuition payments are made the 1st of each month.

Cancellation Policy

Preschool and Caretaker-and-Kids Programs

You must provide at least 15 days notice before the end of participation in the program. If you cancel your child(ren)'s participation in the program at any time without the required 15 days notice, you will be required to pay tuition for the remaining 15 days after you give notice of end of participation, regardless of whether the child is receiving care.

Summer Camp

Refunds are available until March 15. After that, you will not be refunded the initial 30% registration fee. If you cancel 7 days or more before the camp begins, you will receive a refund, minus a 10% cancellation fee.

Program Cycle

We run on a semester schedule: Fall (Sept-Dec), Spring (Jan-May), Summer- (June-July); each semester requires a new contract, unless otherwise indicated in communication with the director. There is no guarantee of a child's spot in the next semester's roster, though priority will be given to students currently enrolled in the program. In case of program closure beyond these semester breaks, we will do our best to notify parents 30 days in advance.

2025 Calendar

*No programming on Mondays. Our schedule is Tuesday-Friday only.

January

2025

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7 First day of Semester	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

February

2025

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25 Mid-Winter Break: No School	26 No School	27 No School	28 No School	

March

2025

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1
2	3	4 No School	5 No School	6 No School	7 No School	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

April

2025

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22 Spring Break: No School	23 No School	24 No School	25 No School	26
27	28	Family Conferences 29	30			

May

2025

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30 Last Day of Semester	31

June

2025

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9 First Day of Summer Camp	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30					

July

2025

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1	2	3	4 No Camp	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18 Last Day of Camp	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

August

2025

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

September 2025

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2 First Day of Semester	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				

October 2025

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

November 2025

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26 Thanksgiving Break: No School	27 No School	28 No School	29 No School	30

December 2025

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16 No School, Family Conferences	17	18	19	20
21	22	23 Winter Break; No School	24 No School	25 No School	26 No School	27
28	29	30				

Schedule

Daily Schedule

*English time *Spanish time

9:00 Drop-off & Community Circle

9:20 Caminar al base/Walk to base

10:15 Lavar las manos/Hand-Washing

El bocadillo/Snacks

Un cuento/Story

10:30 Las actividades temáticas/Thematic Activities

10:45 Exploracion/Exploration

11:40 Limpiar y Caminar al base/Clean-Up and Walk to base

12:00 Lavar las manos/Hand-Washing

El almuerzo/Lunch

12:45 Reflection and Community Circle

1:00 Pick-up

Week Locations

La Simbiosis is a nomadic nature school in northern Los Angeles county. Our locations are Bailey Canyon, Mt. Wilson Park, and Hamilton Park. We try to be consistent and communicate clearly about locations with families, as we understand that the location deeply affects families' routines and transportation. With this in mind, location is still subject to last-minute change due to inclement weather, natural disaster and park closures. In case of a location change, we will contact all families as soon as possible. We will meet at Bailey Canyon unless otherwise notified.

Routines

Daily Readiness

- Appropriate Dress: Children should always come in clothes that they can get dirty, and that are appropriate for the weather; this may require wearing layers. Please see the chart below.



- Packed lunch: We pack-in, pack-out, so please pack childrens' lunches in reusable containers or bags that are easily resealable (such as silicone bags). Make sure that lunch boxes and containers are not too bulky or heavy since children are responsible for carrying personal items themselves.
- Personal backpacks: Children are expected to bring a backpack everyday containing the following items:
 - lunch
 - covered water bottle
 - change of clothes
 - lightweight jacket
 - hat
 - sunblock (recommended)
- Bug protection: If your child is susceptible to mosquito bites, we recommend treating their clothes with permethrin, applying insect repellent before

programming, mixing a couple of tablespoons of apple cider vinegar in your child's water bottle, or other repellents. We will not apply insect repellent at school. When available, we will use natural insect repellents, like rubbing sagebrush on our skin, or apply repellent stickers on clothing.

- Sun protection: Please apply sunblock at home and pack sun hats and sunglasses. We will not apply sunscreen for children at school.
- Please leave toys and valuables in the car. Children are responsible for their own belongings. Any items brought to nature school are susceptible to dirt, damage, or getting lost.

Arrival/Departure

Please arrive between 8:55-9:15AM and pick-up your child between 12:45-1:00 PM. Upon arrival and departure, caretakers need to sign-in and sign-out. Only people on the child's emergency contact form can do this, unless teachers are notified. If the teachers do not know the person picking-up the child, this adult will need to show identification.

Please do not drop off your child before 8:55AM. There is a 5 minute grace-period for late pick-up. If a child is picked-up after 1:05PM, there will be a late fee of \$5 charged to your account every 15 minutes.

Food

We provide one healthy snack each day. It will generally consist of whole foods like fruits, veggies, seeds, or nuts. Children may decline snacks, but will not receive alternative options. Caretakers are responsible for providing their children with lunch, which will be collected in the morning and passed out at lunch time.

Children will wash hands with soap and water before eating. We will encourage children to eat everything they bring, but children are responsible for feeding themselves; we do not assist with feeding. Sharing food from home is discouraged.

As a group, we will occasionally eat plants that teachers know to be edible with references from credible sources. But children are not to eat anything without washing and teacher approval.

Absences

Please let your teacher know as soon as possible if your child is going to be absent, or arriving late. There are no make-ups or prorated payments for absences.

Scheduling Changes

For any changes to a child's schedule that differ from the original contract, caretakers should communicate with staff a minimum of 48 hours prior to changes

so as to maintain the teacher:child ratio and ensure sufficient supplies are available for all children during programming.

Guests Do's & Don'ts

Because we deeply value an intergenerational community, caretakers are invited to participate with us as we learn and play. Below we've outlined what parent participation looks like.

Please Do's	Please Don'ts
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Practice Spanish (whatever your ability!) -Participate and engage with children in child-led and teacher-initiated activities -Inform staff of any safety concerns -Share pertinent knowledge and skills -Follow-up after class with concerns -Acknowledge and redirect a child who may be emotionally escalating -Model taking care of each other and our environment -Assist in clean-up 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Take pictures of other children -Touch other children -Assist other children with going potty -Manage child behavior issues -Intervene in conflict beyond redirection -Complete a task for a child (ie-threading a bead, giving a hand to climb a tree), allowing them to understand their limits and choose good-fit tasks -Share food with other children

Health & Safety

Health

Child Illness

Recent scientific findings* suggest beneficial effects from nature exposure on human immune responses, in addition to the benefits of sharing space with peers in the open-air and sunshine rather than in enclosed spaces with frequently handled toys and materials.

I NEED TO STAY HOME IF...

I HAVE A FEVER	I AM VOMITING	I HAVE DIARRHEA	I HAVE A RASH	I HAVE HEAD LICE	I HAVE AN EYE INFECTION	I HAVE BEEN IN THE HOSPITAL
						
Temperature of 100.4 or higher	Within the past 24 hours	Within the past 24 hours	Body rash with itching or fever	Itchy head, active head lice	Redness, itching, and/or "crusty" drainage from eye	Hospital stay and/or ER visit

I AM READY TO GO BACK TO SCHOOL WHEN I AM...

Fever free for 24 hours without the use of fever reducing medication i.e Tylenol, Motrin	Free from vomiting for 24 hours	Free from diarrhea for at least 24 hours	Free from rash, itching, or fever I have been evaluated by my doctor if needed.	Treated with appropriate lice treatment at home and proof is provided to nurse	Evaluated by my doctor and have a note to return to school	Released by my medical provider to return to school
--	---------------------------------	--	---	--	--	---

Please do not send your child to school if they are sick or displaying symptoms of sickness (expanding beyond symptoms listed above). If your child will be absent because they are sick with a contagious illness, it is helpful to let our staff know so that staff and families can look for manifesting symptoms in their children. Please note that in light of our policies and State regulations, we maintain confidentiality of the identity of the child who has the illness.

If a child is present at school and displays any of the above symptoms, we will call a caretaker to pick-up the child. If a child has a runny nose, cough, or is showing other signs of sickness, the child will be given a mask to wear when in close proximity to other children or adults to mitigate the spread of germs and viruses. Caretakers will be notified of manifesting symptoms upon pick-up.

Medications

Families are expected to notify the program regarding children's allergies and medications. Caretakers of children with medical needs must provide individualized health care plans, signed by the child's physician, detailing the child's symptoms,

reactions, treatments, care, and all necessary medication. If your child uses a nebulizer, please let us know so we can have you fill out an additional form.

Please note, that there is no certified nurse on staff, so caretakers may need to provide training to staff in effort to provide the best care for children.

[*https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC7913501/](https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC7913501/)

Emergency Policies and Procedures

First Aid

All teachers are certified in pediatric CPR and first aid. At all times we are equipped with a basic first aid kit to take care of minor injuries and abrasions and allergies. Any administration of first aid must be documented by staff in the Medical Records Log. All medical treatments will be documented for caretakers. In case of major injuries or reaction, a caretaker listed on the Emergency Contact Form will be contacted promptly.

Allergies

It is the responsibility of each child's caretakers to inform staff of all allergies. At the discretion of caretakers, we will inform all members of our community of the allergies and the best ways to work together to keep all participants safe. It is the caretaker's responsibility to inform and train La Simbiosis Nature School staff in the administration of necessary antihistamines. Caretakers will be contacted immediately in the case of an allergic reaction.

When a child with severe contact allergies is present, all children must wash hands upon arrival to school, or after contact with allergens. Any potential hazardous allergens must be left at home or in the car.

Lost and Missing

If a child goes missing during a session, not being found in the immediate program boundaries, one teacher will search for the missing child, while the other will gather the remaining children and stay with them. The person searching should call out the child's name and ask others if they have seen the missing child. If the child is not found after 10 minutes, a teacher will call 999 and the missing child's parents will be notified. The teachers will remove the remaining children from the site and have them picked up by their parents as soon as possible. Both teachers will remain on site, helping with the search until the incident is resolved and the search is called off.

Unwanted Visitor

Because we meet on public land, we cannot ask others to leave the space we are using. If someone is causing problems for the group, a teacher will calmly engage the individual, while the other adults guide the children to a new location. If requests for space are not respected, a teacher will call 9-9-9.

Severe Weather and Natural Disaster

Our program persists rain or shine. However, we will cancel programming in case of lightning, or natural disaster such as earthquake, flooding, or fire. If one of these begins during care we will:

- 1) Move away from trees and evacuate the park if necessary.
- 2) Call parents to pick-up their children.
- 3) Complete an incident report, and share it with parents.

Wildlife

As preventative measures to encountering wildlife, we provide staff and students with whistles, as well as bells to wear on backpacks. We sing, talk, and make noise to make other people and animals aware of our presence. We also pack-in and pack-out our trash.

In case of encounters with dangerous wildlife, staff are equipped with bear mace. When a potentially dangerous animal is seen, staff will use the practiced Wolf Howl to call all children to them, and proceed to the most accessible escape routes by backing away slowly. In case of being pursued by animals, one staff will keep themselves between the animal and the children, while another staff guides children to safety.

Air Quality

When air quality is hazardous, we will maximize time under tree canopies where the trees and plants provide a physical buffer, as well as purify the air. We will encourage children to wear masks and will notify caretakers if a change of location for the day seems necessary. Based on recommendations from the California Air Resources Board and information from EPA AirNow, staff will assess the safety of each situation and may cancel programming until conditions improve.

Staff Qualifications, Training and Responsibilities

Toileting

Caretakers are encouraged to take their children to use the toilets near the parking lot each day before our session begins. Once programming has begun, children will have access to a camping potty. If caretakers are not present, teachers are qualified to assist children. Our camping potty will be available and visible to those within the program, but shielded as much as possible from the public. Bathroom independence is required for the preschool program.

We charge an additional \$5/day toward tuition for children that are in-process of gaining toilet independence but still require additional assistance.

Ratios

For the safety of all children, our preschool program (ages 3-6) will not exceed a ratio of 1:5, staff:children, our summer program (ages 3-10) will not exceed a ratio of 1:6, staff:children.

Adults will not go off one-on-one with a child, but will maintain small groups. We uphold a zero-tolerance sexual and physical abuse policy. Violation of this by any staff will result in their termination. Activities are conducted in one location, though we understand that while partaking in activities such as hiking, the group may be spread out and move at varied paces. In cases like these, the ratio of staff to children will not exceed 1:5 for preschool, and 1:6 for camp, and will regroup regularly.

De-escalation and Positive Handling

When a child is unregulated, or volatile to others, a teacher will attempt to ensure that all children feel safe and have positive connections with each other. A teacher will provide space for the child to calm down, encouraging the use of various regulation strategies. All members will practice listening to others, and considering each individual's needs and desires. We do not use corporal punishment.

Anti-bullying

We proactively mitigate bullying by:

- Creating a "Nos cuidamos/We take-care of each other" charter as a community
- Hosting daily community circles to provide a safe communication space for reflection, expression and listening

- Scaffold listening and problem-solving when conflict arises
- Functioning as a sociocracy in decision-making
- Maintaining a high adult:child ratio
- Explicitly addressing the importance of consent and respecting other's "no"
- Addressing unkind behaviors as they arise

Training

Staff are required, as able, to maintain a minimum of:

- A clear background check
- Pediatric first aid and CPR certification
- Current immunization records
- Mandated reporter training

Communication

Confidentiality

Mandated Reporting

When a concern arises about a child's safety outside of the program, information will be shared on a need-to-know basis in the best interest of the child. Sharing information with Child Protective Services and Community Care Licensing regarding a child safeguarding concern is not a breach of confidentiality. It is mandatory for all the staff to report of any suspected child abuse if there is reasonable suspicion that a child has been abused. The person suspecting the abuse is responsible for making that call and should report it to the Director immediately. Records are kept in a safe and confidential manner.

Proof of Immunization

For the safety of everyone in the program, please provide a proof of immunization record from your doctor that is up-to-date on all age-appropriate vaccinations.

Media Release

La Simbosis will not post any photos or videos of children without parent permission. Please see Photo & Video Release form for more details.

Forms to Complete & Return

Overview

Please complete and return the following forms:

- Handbook Compliance** (see next section)
- Vaccination Record** (including COVID vaccine)
- Contract** (you will receive this via email upon submission of other forms)
- Photo & Video Release** (p. 30)
- Emergency Contact Form** (p. 31)
- Assumption of Risk; Waiver; and Liability Release** (p. 32-35)

All the forms are also available on our WonderSchool page, or can be emailed upon request.

Completed forms can be uploaded to WonderSchool, emailed to LaSimbiosisNS@gmail.com, or printed and submitted to staff.

Handbook Compliance

I, _____, caretaker of _____, hereby acknowledge that I have received and read La Simbiosis Handbook in its entirety. I hereby agree to follow the program policies and procedures. I understand that this school reserves the right to modify the program policies and procedures and any other information contained in the above documents at the program's discretion, with 30 days of prior written notice.

This invitation for admission to La Simbiosis Nature School expires if this contract is not signed, dated, and received with the appropriate deposit fee, **no later than 3 days** after invitation of admission to our program.

Signature _____

Date _____

Photo & Video Release

Throughout the season we have many great moments worth sharing. The staff would like to capture some of these with photo or video. The photos will primarily be used for:

- Communication with parents
- La Simbiosis WonderSchool page
- Acquiring grants

Please mark how you would like footage of your child to be handled, and sign below.

I give full permission for my child, _____, to be photographed.

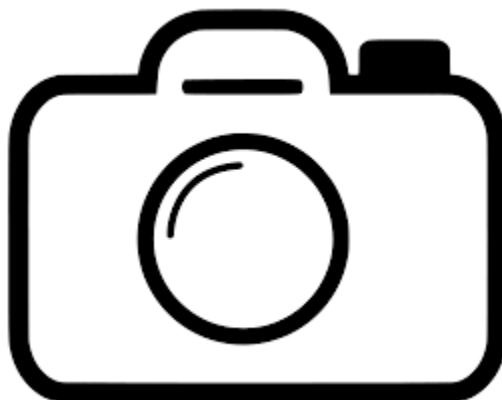
I give partial permission for my child, _____, to be photographed.

Explanation: _____

I do not give permission for my child, _____, to be photographed.

Caretaker Signature _____ **Date** _____.

Caretaker Name _____.



Emergency Contact Form

STATE OF CALIFORNIA
HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES AGENCY

CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES
COMMUNITY CARE LICENSING DIVISION

IDENTIFICATION AND EMERGENCY INFORMATION CHILD CARE CENTERS/FAMILY CHILD CARE HOMES

To Be Completed by Parent or Authorized Representative

CHILD'S NAME	LAST	MIDDLE	FIRST	SEX	TELEPHONE
					()
ADDRESS	NUMBER	STREET	CITY	STATE	ZIP
					BIRTHDATE
FATHER'S/GUARDIAN'S/FATHER'S DOMESTIC PARTNER'S NAME	LAST	MIDDLE	FIRST	BUSINESS TELEPHONE	
					()
HOME ADDRESS	NUMBER	STREET	CITY	STATE	ZIP
					HOME TELEPHONE
					()
MOTHER'S/GUARDIAN'S/MOTHER'S DOMESTIC PARTNER'S NAME	LAST	MIDDLE	FIRST	BUSINESS TELEPHONE	
					()
HOME ADDRESS	NUMBER	STREET	CITY	STATE	ZIP
					HOME TELEPHONE
					()
PERSON RESPONSIBLE FOR CHILD	LAST NAME	MIDDLE	FIRST	HOME TELEPHONE	BUSINESS TELEPHONE
				()	()

ADDITIONAL PERSONS WHO MAY BE CALLED IN AN EMERGENCY

NAME	ADDRESS	TELEPHONE	RELATIONSHIP

PHYSICIAN OR DENTIST TO BE CALLED IN AN EMERGENCY

PHYSICIAN	ADDRESS	MEDICAL PLAN AND NUMBER	TELEPHONE
			()
DENTIST	ADDRESS	MEDICAL PLAN AND NUMBER	TELEPHONE
			()

IF PHYSICIAN CANNOT BE REACHED, WHAT ACTION SHOULD BE TAKEN?

CALL EMERGENCY HOSPITAL
 OTHER EXPLAIN:

NAMES OF PERSONS AUTHORIZED TO TAKE CHILD FROM THE FACILITY

(CHILD WILL NOT BE ALLOWED TO LEAVE WITH ANY OTHER PERSON WITHOUT WRITTEN AUTHORIZATION FROM PARENT OR AUTHORIZED REPRESENTATIVE)

NAME	RELATIONSHIP

TIME CHILD WILL BE CALLED FOR

SIGNATURE OF PARENT/GUARDIAN OR AUTHORIZED REPRESENTATIVE

DATE

TO BE COMPLETED BY FACILITY DIRECTOR/ADMINISTRATOR/FAMILY CHILD CARE HOMES LICENSEE

DATE OF ADMISSION	DATE LEFT

Assumption of Risk; Waiver; and Liability Release

I do hereby affirm and acknowledge that I have been fully informed of the inherent hazards and risks associated with my child (the "Participant") participating in La Simbiosis Nature School (the "Program"), an outdoor educational program that occurs in Bailey Canyon and Lower Arroyo Park (the "Venue"). In consideration of my child being permitted to participate in the Program and all related activities (**the "Program Activities"**) I hereby release and hold harmless with respect to any and all injury, disability, death, or loss or damage to person or property whether caused by negligence or otherwise, the following parties: La Simbiosis Nature School and each of their respective officers, directors, agents, assistants, contractors, volunteers, staff, representatives, guests and employees, instructors, the owners (collectively, the "**Released Parties**" and each a "**Released Party**"), with or without supervision and whether such activities take place at or near the Venue, traveling to or from the Venue or otherwise, and for other good and valuable consideration, the receipt and sufficiency of which are hereby acknowledged, by clicking the appropriate box and agreeing to this Agreement, I, for myself, my heirs, executors, next of kin, successors in interest, guardians, legal representatives, assigns and administrators, agree as follows:

Dangerous Activity. I agree and acknowledge that participating in activities in the outdoors carries risks. I understand and agree that neither my child's actions, nor the actions of any other person (including other Students), can necessarily be controlled, and that my child's safety and health cannot be guaranteed while participating in the Program and related activities or visiting the Venue.

Consent to Medical Treatment. I consent for my child to receive first aid, medical and/or surgical treatment, or any other services rendered to my child in the event of an injury, accident, or illness my child incurs during my child's direct or indirect involvement with the Program Activities. I agree and acknowledge that the Released Parties are under no obligation to provide such medical treatment. I acknowledge that any injuries that my child sustains may be compounded by negligent first aid or emergency response of the released parties or other individuals or medical or emergency personnel.

Assumption of Risks. Understanding, acknowledging and agreeing to all the risks and hazards involved with the Program Activities, I freely and voluntarily choose to allow my child to participate in the Program Activities, travel to, enter and use the Venue, and I hereby voluntarily and expressly agree to accept and assume all risk of loss, damages, theft, injury or death that may occur to my or my property as a result of or incident to my child's participation in the program activities, including the risk my child may be injured by the actions of negligence of the released parties, other participants or other third parties while participating in the program activities or visiting, traveling to or from or using or visiting the venue. I understand and agree that by agreeing to this Agreement, I am assuming full responsibility for any and all risk of death, serious personal injury, temporary or permanent disability, or property loss and/or damage suffered by my child or my property in connection with the Program Activities or while visiting, traveling to or using the Venue. I understand and agree that

this Agreement will be binding on me, my spouse (or registered domestic partner), my guardians and my child's guardians, the executors or administrators of my estate or my child's estate, my heirs or my child's heirs, my child's representatives, assigns, successors in interest, children, and any guardian ad litem for said children (collectively, the "Releasers"). I accept full and complete responsibility for the safety of myself, any guests, observers or other individuals who I have invited to the Venue, and property, and I assume the risk of damage, theft, loss or injury caused by others to me, my guests and property.

Liability Release and Waiver of Claims. On behalf of the Releasers and in consideration for being allowed to participate in the Program Activities and/or use of the Venue, I hereby waive, release and forever discharge any and all claims or causes of action, now or known in any jurisdiction throughout the world, against the released parties, including, without limitations, any bodily injury or disability, illness or disease, accident, death, financial loss, property loss, damage, destruction, delay, inconvenience or other harm or whatever nature that may be directly or indirectly related to, arising from or sustained from participation in the program activities and/or travel to or from or visit to or use of the venue or activities related thereto, negligent first aid or emergency response of the released parties or other negligent act or omission or breach of any express or implied warranty of any released parties or otherwise, provided that nothing in this Section 5 shall be deemed to release any Released Party from liability arising from their own willful or intentional injury to me or my property. The claims released hereby include, but are not limited to, any claims I may now have or may hereafter acquire resulting from injury, death, or property damage sustained by me, my child, or to any property that I may own or have rented, leased or borrowed or have in my possession.

I expressly waive the provisions and protections of Section 1542 of the California Civil Code and any similar law of any jurisdiction. I understand that Section 1542 provides as follows:

A general release does not extend to claims which the creditor does not know or suspect to exist in his or her favor at the time of executing the release, which if known by him or her must have materially affected his or her settlement with the debtor.

I expressly acknowledge and understand the significance, effects and consequence of a waiver of Section 1542 and hereby assume full responsibility for such a waiver.

Unpredictability of Cause; Personal Responsibility. I understand that injuries and harm may result from the Program Activities, including the acts or omissions of other persons, weather, ocean or water conditions, ground and environmental conditions and other causes not necessarily predictable or within anyone's control. I agree and acknowledge that the Released Parties do not accept any responsibility for injury, illness, loss, or damages suffered by my child or me and that obtaining insurance to

cover these risks is my own responsibility. I assume all risk of personal injury, sickness, or death, and damage to or loss of my child's belongings and property, and any and all other delay, inconvenience, damage, loss or other expenses I may suffer as a result of or in connection with the Program Activities. I agree to be fully responsible for my child's actions. I assume responsibility for my child's safety and that of others, including injuries, property damage and harm, to the fullest extent possible and regardless of the acts or omissions of others.

Indemnification. I agree to indemnify, defend and hold harmless the released parties, jointly and severally, from and against any and all claims, actions, demands, rights, losses, costs, damages, expenses, settlements, judgments, causes of action and liabilities of any kind whatsoever, whether foreseen or unforeseen, including attorney's fees, in law or in equity, arising out of or resulting from any claim related to my child's participation in the program activities, including without limitation my breach of this agreement or the program activities rules and policies, or from any individual i invite to the program activities or venue or any other third party claim related to the program activities.

Promise not to Bring Suit. I hereby agree and covenant not to, and shall cause the Releasors not to, bring a claim against, sue, demand compensation from or attach the property or assets of the Released Parties or any of them, for any loss or damage arising or resulting from my participation in the Program Activities or my travel to or from or presence at the Venue, and forever release and discharge the Released Parties or any of them from liability under such claims.

California Law, Jurisdiction. This Agreement shall be governed by and construed under the laws of the State of California, U.S.A., notwithstanding its conflict of law provisions. Any action or proceeding brought to enforce the terms of this Agreement or adjudicate any dispute arising out of this Agreement shall be exclusively brought in the County of San Francisco, State of California. The parties will not raise in connection therewith, and hereby waive, any defenses based upon venue, the inconvenience of the forum, the lack of personal jurisdiction, the sufficiency of service of process or the like in any such action, suit or proceeding brought in the State of California. This Agreement fully, completely, and exclusively sets forth my agreement with the Released Parties on the matters set forth herein and may only be amended in a writing executed by both the Released Parties and myself.

I understand that the terms of this assumption of risk; waiver; and liability release mean that I am waiving certain important rights that I might otherwise have under California law.

Severability. In the event that any provision of this Agreement (or portion thereof) is determined by a court of competent jurisdiction to be invalid or otherwise unenforceable, such provision (or part thereof) shall be enforced or, if incapable of such enforcement, shall be deemed to be deleted from this Agreement, while the remainder

of this Agreement shall continue in full force and remain in effect according to its stated terms and conditions.

I hereby represent, warrant and covenant to the Released Parties that each of the following is true and accurate:

I certify that I am one of the following: Parent, Guardian, Temporary Guardian with legal responsibility for this Participant,

I have read this Assumption of Risk; Waiver; and Liability Release and agree to its terms.

Name -----

Signature ----- Date -----