

Falcon Cove Middle School

PARENT HANDBOOK



Cove Academy
2019-2020

BASCC, Focused on Quality!

BROWARD COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS, FLORIDA

Welcome to another fun-filled year of before and/or after school youth programs. We understand that parents are faced with the difficult task of finding quality programs for their children. The goal of this program is to offer a wide variety of activities for your middle school child.



Middle School youth programs will provide parents with a secure, supervised, constructive learning and recreational environment. Programs are designed for the ages of students that attend the school. Activities will be age appropriate and supervised by competent, caring qualified staff members.

The Mission of Before and After School Child Care is to provide students with:

- an inclusive child care program that is safe and nurturing in a comfortable environment;
- a culturally enriching program that promotes the physical, intellectual, emotional and social development of each student; and
- a program that meets the highest quality of child care standards

Important Program Information



Program's Supervisors: Richard Keery/Steven Bryant

Program Contact Number: 754-323-3200

Supervisor's Email Address is: richard.keery@browardschools.com or steven.bryant@browardschools.com

Staffing

Broward County Public Schools (BCPS) has fingerprinted, cleared and badged all staff members. Staff members also attend ongoing professional development. Ratios for programs are 1:25 for grades 6th-8th. Students with special needs may require a smaller ratio.

While your child is attending the program, you can expect them to participate in activities that encourage creativity and help build their self worth.

Description of Services

The daily program schedule will include:

- snack time
- homework assistance
- recreational play



- academics
- access to technology
- other scheduled activities

These other activities might include cultural arts, music, cooking, yoga, science, drama, or arts and crafts.

Homework

All students will be scheduled for a structured homework time. Not all students will complete their homework during this time. If you wish for your child to miss an activity to complete homework, please discuss this with the supervisor

Recreation/Outdoor Play

Each day your child may be scheduled for at least 30 minutes of recreational or outdoor play. There may be organized games, free play, and time to socialize.

Snack Time

Snack is to be provided by the parent, if not sold at the site. If a student forgets his/her snack or snack money, a reminder will be sent home. We promote a healthy lifestyle, and snacks from home should reflect this goal.

Days and Times of Operation

Programs operate from school dismissal until 6:00 P.M. Programs are offered on all school days and all Early Release days.

Before Care Hours: 7:00 A.M. to 9:00 A.M. Extended Day Hours: 2:00 P.M. to 6:00 P.M.

Enrollment Procedures

All students attending the program must be registered at that school. Students from other Broward County schools may not attend unless approved by the school administrator. All students must be registered in the program before attending. An alternative pick-up password must be provided at time of registration in order for the registration to be considered complete. Registration forms need to be completed each year for each student, and the \$25.00 registration fee paid for each family. Students with special needs are to have a pre-enrollment conference before being registered in the program. Waiting lists might occur when groups have reached the ratio capacity. As spaces become available, parents will be contacted.

All students begin a two-week trial period upon entering the program. If the program cannot meet the student's needs, then the student may be withdrawn.

Pre-Enrollment Conference

Children with special needs. An intake will occur within ten (10) schools days from the date of application, a pre-enrollment conference should be held, between parents, classroom teacher or ESE specialist, and the provider to determine staffing, special training needs for staff, etc.

Withdrawal Procedures

When a parent withdraws their child from the program (notification must be given by the parent in writing, stating the date the child will be withdrawn), a refund will be given for any unused days left in the payment period. The registration fee will not be refunded. If a student is absent for nine days without notification from the parent about the status of the student, the student will be automatically withdrawn

and no refund given. Students moving from one school to another during the school year will need to be registered in the new location, and pay a new registration fee, (if space is available in the program).

Financial Information



All payments are due before services can be rendered according to School Board Policy #3411. Payment is due no later than 6 p.m., or program closing time, of the scheduled payment due date, if paying at the school location. When paying on-line, the payment must be made by 11:30 p.m. of the last day to pay. Failure to pay by this time will result in the student being withdrawn from the program.

To re-enter the program, the student must be re-registered by completing a new set of registration forms and paying a **new registration fee of \$30.00**. All child-care fees that are due must be paid in full, including any outstanding late pick-up fees, before a student can continue for the next attendance period. When a payment has not been made, and a student has been removed from the program, the student will not be allowed to attend the program. Parents will need to make other arrangements, until fees have been paid and the student re-enrolled in the program. If a payment has not been made and the student attends the program, the parent will be called to pick up the student. The student will remain at the designated sign out area until the parent arrives. If the program cannot contact the parent(s), the program will follow the procedure established by School Board Policy for abandoned students.

If payment is not paid by the last date to pay three times, the program may determine the student needs to attend another program, which will best meet their needs. Please refer to the payment schedule for payment due dates.

Payments must be made with cash, debit card, or credit card. The program will not take checks. A student cannot participate in the program until payment has been made.

Parents are responsible for keeping their payment receipts for tax purposes.

Broward County Public Schools TAX ID #59-6000530

Scholarships

A partial scholarship rate may be available to families that qualify for free or reduced meals, and meet other requirements. Scholarships are based on need and are limited. If a scholarship is awarded, the parent must still pay for services in advance. Failure to make the payment by the last day to pay will result in the loss of the scholarship with no guarantee of being reappointed. Scholarship applications are available on-line. Speak with the supervisor for more information.

Late Pick-up

Students are to be picked up by the program's closing time. A late family pick-up fee of \$15.00, will be charged for each 15 minute increment the parent or guardian is late in picking up his/her children i.e. (1-15 minutes; 16-30 minutes; 31-45 minutes, etc.). The clock used for time is the clock found at the pick-up location. All outstanding late pick-up fees must be paid before the next payment period begins. Any late pick-up fee not paid by the end of the pay period may become a "student obligation" and applied to the student's permanent record.



Excessive late pickups may result in students being withdrawn from the program.

Discipline

All students attending the program are expected to follow the “*Code of Student Conduct*” for Broward County Public Schools (BCPS), and SBBC Anti-bullying Policy 5.9.

Inappropriate behaviors, including but not limited to, bullying and cyberbullying, are not acceptable. Students who cannot follow the daily acceptable behaviors will be placed on a Behavior Plan. The consequences for misbehaviors will vary from a time out, missing an activity, suspension, or being exited from the program. If a students’ behavior endangers or injures another individual, he/she may be immediately exited from the program.

Students, who have been suspended from the program due to behavior, may not attend until the supervisor has had a conference with the student and parent. Fees will not be refunded for absences due to suspension. After three referral incidents, of which the parent has been notified, a student may be asked to leave the program. Students that are suspended from school may not attend the program during their suspension. Fees paid for those days will not be refunded. Students who are placed in Internal Suspension may attend the program.

Student Cell Phone Usage

The Before and After School program is an extension of the normal school day. Program participants are to follow the same guidelines that are reflected in the Broward County Public Schools “*Code of Student Conduct*”. When students are in the program, cell phones may not be used, and must be off and out-of-sight. Students may have a cell phone in their possession, but it may only be used with permission in a designated area, as specified by the supervisor.

Video Games, Cell Phones

The use of these and other personal technology items from home are restricted in accordance with the Broward County Public Schools “*Code of Student Conduct*”.

Protecting Students’ Health

Every site must have at least two staff members who are trained in CPR and First Aid. Each site is also equipped with a first aid kit.

Health Information About the Student

Students’ allergy or medical information noted on the registration form will be shared with the staff, if necessary. HIPPA procedures will be followed to keep this information private.

Minor injuries will be handled at the program, and parents will be called, if medical attention is needed or if there is a questionable incident. Parents and 911 will be called immediately for all serious injuries.

Medication

Dispensing of medication follows School Board Policy #6305. No medication will be administered without a Broward County approved medication form or a DCF authorization for Medication Form. All medication is kept locked in a secure location with the supervisor.

Safety Information

Drills

Several types of drills will occur during the year. These drills will include: fire, evacuation, tornado and lock down. If you arrive to pick up your child during an active drill, you will be asked to wait until the

drill has been concluded and an “All Clear” has been announced to pick up your child. Please be patient, drills are done to ensure the safety and security of your child.

Active Emergencies

If you arrive during an “Active Lockdown”, no one will be allowed to enter or leave the building. You will be asked to wait away from the campus. Once the children have been secured, the program will attempt to contact you by text, email or phone to keep you informed. Once an “All Clear” has been called you may enter the school to sign out your children.

During an “Active Evacuation”, if a severe safety issue exists, students may be moved to an alternative neighborhood location off campus, for their safety. The program will make every attempt to contact by text, email or phone with instructions for picking up your child away from campus.

Student’s Dress Code

Students are to follow the dress code set by Broward County Public Schools. Appropriate footwear should be worn daily for outdoor play. Inappropriate footwear may prohibit students from participating in some physical or outdoor activities.

Attendance

Program attendance is taken daily within the first twenty minutes of the program’s start time. If a student does not report to the program, and is not on the official absentee list or early dismissal list, the parent/guardian or emergency contact will be notified to verify the student’s absence.

If a student is not going to attend the program for any reason, it is the parent’s responsibility to inform the supervisor by calling the program or school’s telephone number and leaving a message prior to the Program’s start time. These procedures are in place to ensure the safety of all students attending the program.



It is your responsibility to notify the supervisor, as well as your child’s teacher, if the student will not be attending the program. To ensure that the supervisor is notified in a timely manner, please do not ask the teacher to take on the responsibility of notifying the supervisor that your child will not be attending the program.

Consistently failing to personally notify the supervisor of your child’s absence may result in the student being dismissed from the program. A student who is not present for the school day may come to the program if they were not absent from the day due to illness. The registering parent, or any other adult designated on the registration form (with permission to pick-up the student) signs in the child.

When arriving at the program, an adult must accompany their child. However, students can only enter the program within the first 30 minutes of program time.

A “Release of Liability/Permission” form must be completed when students are being released to a person not employed by the Program for special programs (such as tutoring, sports camps, gymnastics, cheerleading, PAL, chorus, Girl Scouts, etc.).

Before Care Arrival and Sign-In Procedures

Parents must bring the child to the Before Care program at the school and sign them into the program before leaving the school, unless the parent has signed the Student Sign-In permission form for their child to sign themselves in. This form contains the following language: “I (parent) understand that my child will not be supervised until they sign themselves in. If my child does not adhere to this stipulation, the

privilege of signing themselves in will be revoked, and I will assume the responsibility of signing in my child.”

Dismissal/Sign Out Procedures for After Care

Students may only be signed out and dismissed from the designated sign out area.

Students may be signed out of the Program to leave for the day only by those persons indicated on the registration form as having authorization to do so and producing a photo ID for verification.

If for some reason a person who is not listed as authorized on the registration form needs to pick-up the student, the registering parent must call and give the alternate’s name to the Supervisor. The parent will identify himself or herself on the phone to the supervisor by using the password system. Please refer to the section “Family Matters” for more information.

Students may be signed out of the program by an authorized person for a designated period of time and return at a later time to rejoin their groups. This privilege will only be allowed once daily and should not be abused. For the safety of students, students need to stay with their assigned groups. Students may not sign themselves out and walk/ride bike home, unless prior arrangements have been made and documented with the program supervisor. The person signing a student out must sign legibly and note the time on the sign out log. Every effort will be made by the after care staff to make the pick-up process timely.

Once a student has been signed out they are no longer the responsibility of the program and must leave the campus. Crossing guards are not in place, 30 minutes after the end of the school day.

Please do not call ahead for your child, for safety reasons students cannot wait in the sign out area for parent’s arrivals.

Special Programs

Special activities or programs might be offered from time to time that would incur additional fees. These would be optional program enhancements.

Program Concerns

Each complaint or concern is taken seriously. They will be addressed in an appropriate manner, which maintains positive relationships. Please try to resolve all matters at the site with the Supervisor. With all parties listening to each other, all problems can be resolved. If you have a serious concern that cannot be resolved at the school site with the supervisor and school’s administrator, please feel free to contact the Director of Before and After School Child Care at 754-321-3330. If you call after hours please leave a message with your full name, your phone number and the reason you are calling.

Parent Roles and Responsibilities

Parents or guardians are welcome to visit the program. Please let the supervisor know when you would like to visit. A staff member will accompany all adults visiting the program to ensure safety.

Parents or guardians are responsible for:

- picking up their child on time;
- notifying the supervisor, if their child is going to be absent;
- following payment procedures;
- keeping the supervisor informed of a change in emergency contact information;
- retaining their payment receipts for tax purposes;
- notifying the supervisor, if their child is going to be withdrawn from the program; and
- notifying the supervisor of any change in your child’s health, if participation is limited.

A student may be exited from the program, if a parent does not meet the above responsibilities on a consistent basis.

Family Matters

As always, our main concern for all students is their safety and comfort. It is important for the program to be able to maintain good relationships with all the significant adults in the student's life. The supervisor asks that you make an appointment to confidentially discuss sensitive family matters. These might include: custody agreements, payment and pick-up concerns, legal matters, and any other pertinent information that will guide the program in meeting the student's needs. We also ask parents to refrain from publicly discussing personal family disputes in front of their child. An adult is not allowed to delete or change the information provided to the program by the other adult. Both adults have equal rights to contact the student at school, to pick up the child from school, to access the student records and to student information except where a certified copy of a currently effective Court Order specifically revoking or restricting those parental rights is submitted to the school.

Again, if there are any concerns of which we need to be aware, please arrange to meet privately with the supervisor.

As adults, we serve as role models for the students in the program. If you have a concern, please address it in an appropriate and calm matter. You may want to set up a time to discuss your concerns with the supervisor. Should a situation occur within the program due to inappropriate actions by parents, a student will be asked to leave the program.

Parents are expected to direct any questions about incidents that involve their child ONLY to the supervisor. It is strictly prohibited for parents to question or reprimand other students in the program.

Parents requesting student records must contact the BCPS Public Information Office by calling 754-321-0000 and ask to be transferred to records request. The parent may also contact Requel Bell via email www.Requel.Bell@browardschools.com

Please do not leave your purse or valuables in the car when picking up your child. Please park in designated areas only.

Thank you for choosing your school's youth program.
We appreciate your trust.

2019-2020



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SCHOOL BOARD OF BROWARD COUNTY, FLORIDA

2016 Equal Educational Opportunities (EEO) /
Americans with Disabilities Act Amendment 's (ADAA's) clause

The School Board of Broward County, Florida, prohibits any policy or procedure, which results in discrimination on the basis of age, color, disability, gender identity, gender expression, national origin, marital status, race, religion, sex, or sexual orientation. Individuals, who wish to file a discrimination and/or harassment complaint, may call the Director, Equal Educational Opportunities/ADA Compliance at (754) 321-2150 or Teletype Machine (TTY) at 754-321-2158.

Individuals with disabilities requesting accommodations under the Americans with Disabilities Act Amendment Act of 2008, (ADAAA) may call Equal Educational Opportunities/ADA Compliance, at 754-321-2150 or Teletype Machine (TTY) at 754-321-2158.

The Before and After School Child Care program will protect the confidentiality of students according to Federal and State of Florida privacy laws, as well as School Board of Broward County, Florida policies 4019 and 5100.1.

Student's Name: _____

School's Name: Falcon Cove Middle School

I understand the policies and procedures that have been outlined in the Parent Handbook. I understand that these are in place to ensure the safety and well being of my child while attending the program. I have read them and agree to follow them. I have also discussed the rules of the program with my student.

In addition, I understand some of my responsibilities include, but are not limited to:

- bringing my Photo ID for pick-up verification
- picking my student up by 6:00 P.M., or I will be charged a late fee
- paying Period Fees on or before the last day to pay
- paying late fees prior to the next Period Payment
- notifying the Supervisor directly, if my child will not be attending the program

1. I understand, my child will be expected to behave in accordance with the Code of Student Conduct for Broward County Public Schools.
2. I understand, all payments for Before and After School Child Care Programs must be made **in advance** of the child receiving childcare. Failure to pay in advance will result in dismissal from the program. **"Last Day to Pay" is given to parent/guardians upon registration.**
3. I understand, it is necessary to pick up my child(ren) on time. Failure to do so may result in dismissal from the program. A late pick-up fee of **\$15.00**, per 15 minute increments, per family will be charged.
4. I understand, if my child is on the Broward Free/Reduced Meal Program, funds **may be** available for partial After School Child Care Fees. It is my responsibility to request this information and provide necessary documents for the application.
5. I also understand, it is my responsibility to keep my own records and receipts for income tax purposes.

Parent/Guardian Signature: _____

Date: _____

Parent/Guardian Copy
2019-2020

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Program's Copy
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