

This document contains important safety information and also requests information, consent and a waiver, release and indemnity from parents/guardians.

BB&N prides itself on providing a safe experience at Bivouac. Staff members receive training from Ninth Grade Dean and Bivouac Director David Strodel. A registered nurse is on-site for the entire program. In addition, BB&N has an established relationship with local hospitals and with an EMT who lives in close proximity to the Bivouac location.

Although BB&N takes every reasonable precaution, the Bivouac Program, like all wilderness experiences, presents inherent risks. During Bivouac, students engage in a number of activities such as hiking Mount Monadnock; digging latrines; using a saw, wedge, and potentially an axe (with supervision) to cut and split firewood; building campfires; scaling a climbing wall; participating in a high-ropes challenge course; carrying water jugs; and other strenuous activities.

All of these activities involve, to varying degrees, some elements of risk. For example, when students scale the climbing wall, they are “on belay,” meaning that they are attached by rope to a specially trained staff member on the ground. Similarly, hiking Mount Monadnock is a strenuous activity and involves a significant amount of physical exertion. Likewise, despite BB&N’s training of students in the safe use of tools, such as saws and wood-splitting tools, these tools are potentially dangerous, and accidents can occur.

With respect to swimming, BB&N provides supervision by adult staff and junior guides who have certification in lifesaving. However, if your child is not a swimmer or has limited swimming ability, please indicate this in the swimming question below. It is also important that you bring this information to the attention of Bivouac Director David Strodel.

Students will be transported to and from New Hampshire by the School’s transportation providers. However, there may be occasions when it is necessary for a student to travel in a staff automobile with a staff member (for example, to visit a doctor).

BB&N does have a nurse on duty during the Bivouac Program. However, the Bivouac Nurse will not be present with the students at all times. Most, but not all, staff members who will be present with students during Bivouac are certified in first aid or CPR. If your child possesses any type of medical condition that could be affected by physical exertion, it is important that you bring this information to the attention of the Upper School Nurse and Bivouac Director David Strodel if any accommodations need to be provided in order to make the Bivouac experience safer.

It is important that you carefully identify in the Health Forms Online on the BB&N Parent Portal any allergies your child has and any medications your child takes. Since Bivouac is an overnight wilderness experience, it is BB&N's policy that all prescription medication must be secured by the Bivouac Nurse in a locked storage box. Medications will be administered by the Bivouac Nurse, or, alternatively, the nurse will provide sufficient amounts of the medication to your child for self-administration. It is a BB&N policy that medication should not be kept in the possession of individual students with the exception of Epi-Pens and inhalers. BB&N will do everything possible to keep confidential the nature of the medication.

During Bivouac, students will be asked if they want to participate in a solo camping experience. All students participate in an afternoon course on low-impact camping and receive an explanation of the goals of the Solo Program. They are then asked to decide whether they would like to participate in the Solo Program the following day. When a student goes on Solo, the student is provided with the necessary equipment and food, taken to a less active area of the Bivouac property by a BB&N staff member, and shown how to get back to the main camp. Upon return from Solo, the student must sign in. Participation in Solo is completely voluntary and it has been common for well over half of the students present decide to participate once they have become acclimated to the environment at Bivouac. However, if you believe that your child is not prepared for this experience, please indicate this on the Solo question on the back of this page.

Student (Please Print): _____

Basic Information

My child is able to swim: Yes _____ No _____

My child has permission to choose to participate in the Solo Program: Yes _____ No _____

Consent

I have reviewed the Bivouac Information Packet and answered the above questions truthfully. I understand that there are inherent risks involved in the Bivouac Program, and agree that I am responsible for any medical expenses incurred by my child during Bivouac, including, but not limited to, the cost of prescription medications and costs associated with hospital/clinic visits. I also agree to comply with BB&N's policy regarding identification of my child's prescription medications and allergies on the Health Forms Online on the BB&N Parent Portal. I hereby consent to my child's participation in the Bivouac Program.

Parent/Guardian Signature: _____ Date: _____

Waiver, Release, and Indemnity Agreement

In consideration for permitting my child to participate in the Bivouac Program, I, for myself and my child, hereby voluntarily release, discharge, waive and relinquish all claims that each may have against Buckingham Browne & Nichols School (BB&N), its officers, agents and employees, arising out of or in any way related to the Bivouac Program, including but not limited to, claims for bodily injury, personal injury, emotional distress, property damage, or wrongful death occurring to my child arising out of the Bivouac Program.

I further agree that in the event of a claim against BB&N, its officers, directors, trustees, employees or agents, arising out of or in any way related to my child's participation in the Bivouac Program, including, but not limited to, a claim for bodily injury, personal injury, emotional distress, property damage, and/or wrongful death, then I will defend, indemnify, and hold harmless BB&N, its officers, directors, trustees, employees, or agents, from said claim(s).

I acknowledge that I have read this "Waiver, Release, and Indemnity Agreement" and I am aware of the legal consequences of signing this binding document.

Parent/Guardian Signature: _____ Date: _____

Please return to the Upper School Office in the enclosed envelope by June 15