



Ferndale Club
Early Bird Program

Address/Location: 2290 Main Street, Ferndale, WA 98248

Telephone: 360.384.0753

Program Hours: Monday-Friday 7:00am through transportation to school (about 9am)

Website: www.whatcomclubs.org

Program Director: Molly Simon

Email: msimon@whatcomclubs.org

Program Overview: It is the goal of our Early Bird Program to service the needs of the working parent, while addressing the special interests and concerns of their children. Our trained, professional staff works daily to provide a quality program designed to promote character and leadership development, education and career development, health and life skills, the arts and sports, fitness and recreation. Our daily activities include: large and small active group games, arts & crafts, computer education, reading and leisure time. The Early Bird Program serves breakfast each day between 8-8:30am. Members may bring their breakfast from home if they choose. If your child has allergies or special needs please make those needs known to the Program Director.

Fees: \$85 per month per child plus current 09/10 green membership (\$30). **The monthly fee is due on or before the 5th of each month.** Please note this fee is based on your child attending our program 5 days per week and is based on 20 program days each month. We realize that not all months contain 20 school days, in order to accommodate for this a credit for pre-care may be applied on the following non-school days: 9/18/09, 10/9/09, 2/12/10.

We do not refund nor credit tuition for vacations, illnesses, or absences. Children enrolled in the program are reserving time, space, supplies and staffing whether or not the child attends.

If financial assistance is needed, it will be handled on a case-by-case basis and should be discussed with Club Program Director Molly Simon or Club Branch Director Josh Wilund. Limited financial assistance may be available.

Snow Days/Inclement Weather: If school is starting late due to snow or ice or other weather related issues then the Early Bird Program will begin late as well. That is, for example if the schools are open but running one hour late, then our Early Bird Program will start one hour late (8:00am) as well. If school is two hours late, the Early Bird Program starts two hours late, etc.

If school is cancelled due to adverse weather the Club and all of its programs and activities will be cancelled as well. The Club is closed on all snow days when the Ferndale School District is closed.

In the event that children are released early from school because of adverse weather, then all of our programs, including transportation, are cancelled and the Club will be closed.

Our First priority is always the safety of children and staff, and decisions will be made accordingly.

Arrival & Departure: The hours of the Early Bird Program are from 7am until the start of the school day. At approximately 9am members will begin to be transported to school. Depending on where your child goes to school they may leave the Club earlier or later. It must be stated in the strongest terms, **members are not to arrive at the site prior to 7am as they will not be supervised.**

Club Rules & Discipline Policy: In organizing and maintaining a safe and cooperative program, it is necessary to have specific policies and limitations that govern our facility, program/staff and the behavior of each child. Compliance with imposed limits and policies of the facility and program is expected and required. Should it become necessary to correct and or resolve any dangerous or disruptive behavior the following steps will be followed:

1. Reasoning: communication between child and staff where problems and solutions are identified.
2. Time-out: removal from specific activity for a short period of time.
3. Parent/child/staff conference
4. Probation period; possible suspension from program or aspect of the program.

The Boys & Girls Clubs of Whatcom County has a no tolerance violence/bullying rule. All youth involved in fights will be automatically suspended from the program for a minimum of one (1) week.

Club Rules

- We respect each other by keeping our hands and feet to ourselves
- We respect our Club by walking inside, running/playing ball outside or in the gym, taking care of equipment and supplies and cleaning up after ourselves.
- We respect Club staff by listening, following directions and being courteous.
- We respect our self by making good decisions and having a positive attitude.

Our Mission

To enable all young people, especially those who need us most, to reach their full potential as productive, caring, responsible citizens.