

Parent Guidelines

These guidelines are for you to help your child have an enjoyable and successful experience while participating in the DOVES Guidance Program at the Oxford Ranch.

- Please arrive on time, no earlier than 15 minutes before your scheduled session. If you are late your child will only have the remainder of their allotted time. Sessions are scheduled for one (1) hour.
- You may not drop your child off and leave. There must be a parent or guardian on site while your child is on the ranch. Only exception is if your child is a student volunteer.
- Drive very slowly down our driveway. Please be watchful for children and pets. Park in designated parking area only.
- Please give us at least 24 hours notice if you can not make your scheduled session. If you miss two (2) sessions in a row without prior arrangements or advanced notice your child will be dropped from the program. No make up sessions.
- Lessons may have to be cancelled due to inclement weather, no make up lessons when this happens, this is why our sessions are seasonal. We make every effort to let you know as far ahead as possible if we need to cancel your session. BUT, it is ultimately your responsibility. If in doubt call and confirm your appointment.
- Call my cell phone number **(209) 329-7034** to confirm or cancel. Do not call the house number. If you e-mail do so before 9 PM in the evening or I will not get your message until later the next day. **Best to call my cell number.**
- Please have your child prepared for their lesson. Proper clothing, boots, jacket and gloves if cold. Bottled water is also good idea. If your child borrows one of our helmets and boots, please make sure your child cleans them properly and returns them to the proper place. We do recommend that you use your own helmet (equestrian approved, not a bicycle helmet) and riding boots, as we can not guarantee that we will have a helmet and boots to fit your child.
- **Proper riding attire and an equestrian approved riding helmet is required. Please read our “appropriate clothing rules”.**
- If you bring other children with you that are not in the riding program, we still have to have a signed release of liability, and you must keep them under supervision at all times.
- We encourage parents to participate with their child with grooming and chores if they so desire, but you must wear appropriate clothing and shoes or boots. **Please no open toed shoes while around the horses. AND by all means give your child encouragement and praise during their session!**
- Please do not bring your pets and do not leave them in your vehicle.

- You may bring apples and carrots for the horses but please ask for permission to feed the horses before doing so, and use a bucket to place the “treat” in before feeding to horses.
- We are not responsible for lost or stolen items.
- *If you have a question, problem or concerns please discuss it with Shannon or Gayle Oxford, not a volunteer or other participant.*