

**Summer Survival Sheet**

### Email/Facebook/App

Communication is done primarily through HiMama and email at this time. Please be sure that you have registered with HiMama. We use HiMama for payment, communication and checking in and out of your child each day. Please make sure your email address is registered and that you have the G.A.P. email as an approved sender or in your contact group. G.A.P. also has a Facebook page and staff post pictures and information throughout the summer so you can see what the children are doing. Please “like” us on Facebook if you have an account.

### Parent Area/Communication

Due to school policies, some schools are locked during the day. This is where having the HiMama app. is so important for checking your child out each day. When you check your child out using the HiMama app. It sends a notification that you are there to pick your child up. Please do not check your child out until you are on the school grounds. Once staff receive the notification, they will walk your child to the doors to greet you. For school sites that allow parent access, these sites have a parent area, a table or bulletin board that will list activities for the week. Even if a school allows you to enter, we still need you to check your child out when you come in to pick them up. As a licensed program, G.A.P. is expected to have a record of each child being signed out. There will be a summer schedule on the HiMama site for each month and will indicate pool days, so you know to pick your child up that day at the pool. The phone numbers for each site are:

Camelot 696-4447

Hillcrest 696-4645

Kindergarten 692-4399

Medary 696-4369

Dakota Prairie 696-4909

Please try to limit calls to the site to urgent needs as our staff is busy interacting and supervising the children.

**Construction**

With summer construction at Medary and Hillcrest, daily procedures will have to be adapted to meet the restrictions of constructions. With that in mind, your children’s safety is our priority. When dropping off and picking up children please do not park in an area that requires your child to cross traffic or in an area where you are not visible to staff. Looking forward to Summer 2024, both Medary and Hillcrest will be closed and alternative sites for G.A.P. will be looked into.

##### Clothing

Children will enjoy their experience at G.A.P. if they are physically comfortable. Please send your child to G.A.P. with **appropriate footwear** (the children walk to a variety of activities and play outside each day). Mornings are cool, so a sweatshirt/jacket may be necessary. Be aware of the weather – some days start out cool and warm up considerably by the afternoon. Backpacks for towels, swimsuits, projects, etc. should be sent each day. Please label all your child’s belongings. This will help us locate their owners and save parents money on replacing them. It will also keep our lost and found to a minimum. Put your family name or initials on **everything**. Spare clothing is encouraged for all children attending the kindergarten site.

##### Park and Rec

The Brookings Park and Recreation Department offers a variety of activities for children and adults. If your child signed up for swim lessons through G.A.P. or at the time recommended by G.A.P., we will provide the necessary supervision to and from these lessons. Parents have been asked to enroll their children for the session and class and let the G.A.P. office know their child is enrolled. From this we will compile a list of participating children which will be posted at the G.A.P. site. Parents should check this Park and Rec listing to confirm that their child’s name is listed for the appropriate activity. Some parents may wish to send a copy of their child’s summer activities for staff use. Children may be chilled after swim lessons – please encourage appropriate clothing.

##### Season Pool Passes

The Brookings Park and Recreation Department sells pool passes. The cost this summer for an individual pass is $63.19 or $159.75 for a family of three pass. If you choose not to purchase a season pass, the cost for swimming will be $6.00 daily, and will be billed via Hi Mama! A discount card for 10 daily passes is also available for $57.51. Unused punches on the discount card can be used next year, so don’t throw it away if there are still punches available! Pool days will be on the monthly calendar.

##### Swim Days

Two to three swim days will be planned each week. Children will have the option of playing in Hillcrest Park or in the pool area. Children attending the Dakota Prairie, Medary, Camelot and Methodist Church sites will be transported to the pool via Brookings Area Transit Authority. The children leave site around 2:00 on swim days, and any variation from this will be posted in the parent area onsite. You will need to pick your child(ren) up at the pool/park on swim days. Please park in the lot on the east side of the park off 17th Ave. and walk to the playground area in the center of the park. Please remember to sign your child out via the Hi Mama! app. Each site will have its own table along with a flag: Camelot is yellow, Hillcrest is red, Kindergarten is yellow checkered, Medary is green and Dakota Prairie is blue. It usually takes about 10-15 minutes for children to gather their belongings, so please plan accordingly. **If bad weather occurs while the children are at the pool, they will go to the Hillcrest G.A.P. site until further plans are made.** Our number one priority is the safety of children – once they are in a safe place parents will be contacted so they are aware of the change in pick up location.

##### Carpooling

If your child is participating in activities that require transportation, please inform G.A.P. of carpool arrangements. G.A.P. can transport children to designated activities only. If you are utilizing BATA for transportation, a BATA waiver needs to be completed.

**Activities with a fee**

Some activities will have a fee such as bowling, eating out, going to the movie theater, etc. Notifications of activities with a fee will be in the parent letter and on the monthly calendar. Activities will be billed and paid through the Hi Mama! app. If your child participated in every activity, it would cost an additional $40-$60 for the summer.

##### Sun Protection

Sunscreen at G.A.P. is a priority. All children will apply sunscreen before going outside. We always welcome donations to the G.A.P. sunscreen supply. We use a variety of sunscreen brands, most often generic PABA free waterproof sunscreen with a SPF of 30-45, which provides UVA and UVB protection. With the amount of time, we are outdoors, we want to be safe in the sun. Any child may use their own sunscreen, but we do request that their bottle be labeled with their name and be kept on site with the G.A.P. supply. Sunscreen must be applied 30 minutes before sun exposure for the best protection! Hats are encouraged. ☺

##### Sack Lunch/Out to Lunch

Children need a sack lunch every day. Those attending the kindergarten site should pack their lunch with a cool pack as there are more lunches than refrigerator space! G.A.P. provides white milk with lunch, and children may bring other drinks of their choice. Pop is not recommended. If a microwaveable item is included in the lunch, **heating time should not** **exceed 3 minutes**. Many children use the microwaves, and long heating times delay the lunch process. Lunches should contain adequate, nutritious foods able to sustain your child through the afternoon.

Because sack lunches can get tiresome, each site plans out-to-lunch/order in experiences. Locations close to the G.A.P. site will be chosen for the children to walk to, and money will be billed and paid through the Hi Mama! app. Your financial account will be visible on the HiMama! app for you to review at any time. Notifications of out-to-lunches are given through the parent letter and are on the monthly calendar. Sign-up sheets are posted in the parent area, as there are some limitations to group size at certain locations. Children not wishing to participate in this option can bring a sack lunch and will join the group at one of the restaurants. Ordering in may be an option, too.

##### Lost and Found

Due to the number of items that find their way into the lost and found, trips to Goodwill are made periodically. If you can’t find that favorite sweatshirt or towel, check your child’s site every few weeks. Names on items are greatly encouraged as items left at the pool may go to a different site.

##### Other Summer Information

* Late pick up fee is $1.00 per minute, payable to the staff on duty (applicable to all sites).If it is not paid the day of it will be billed via the app.
* Personal toys are NOT allowed at G.A.P. They tend to get lost or broken.
* Children are NOT allowed to purchase snacks at the pool, bowling alley, etc. G.A.P. provides an afternoon snack.