



Brucker Bundesstrasse 104
5700 Zell am See
Austria
www.skiing4all.com
info@skiing4all.com

12th May 2018

Re: Skiing for Children with Special Educational Needs and their Families

Dear Head Teacher

I am writing to kindly ask you to allow your pupil to join our skiing program for the children with special educational needs and their families during the term time.

Our *Skiing4all* organisation is aimed at the children with cognitive difficulties. While learning to ski is an obvious immediate goal of our programs, we are especially proud of the longer-term benefits they bring. Thanks to the tailored approach of our programs, one-to-one care, and expertise of our staff, many of our young guests improve their communication and social skills, gain greater self-confidence and enhance their self-esteem. Our participants discover new possibilities and overcome personal limits, increasing their independence. On return home, parents often report to us that their children work better at school and enjoy more meaningful relationships with the peers. They love showing off their photos and trophies and enjoy the positive reinforcements of their achievements.

Skiing4all programs are run throughout the winter season but we strongly advise our guests against joining us during the busy UK holiday weeks. The slopes in Zell am See are simply too busy during the school holidays and do not provide ideal environment for our program participants with special educational needs. Conversely, during the term time, the children can learn in the spacious, not crowded areas, avoid queuing at the ski lifts and restaurants, and miss the generally loud and stressful atmosphere in the resort. They can also participate in the other activities such as horse-riding or trekking with llamas, which are unavailable during the busy weeks.

We always encourage the whole family to join our programs. Over the years we have seen the siblings become the invaluable help for the children with special educational needs. Their sheer presence can be reassuring in the alien and unpredictable environment. In addition, the siblings often act as a role model and the shared family activities are often treated as a reward and the positive reinforcement at the end of the individual skiing sessions.

We usually find that the siblings also greatly benefit from their individually tailored activities with us. Often, these children crave the greater attention necessarily given to their brothers

or sisters with special educational needs back home. In short, our programs allow the whole family to enjoy their holiday together without compromising each child's individual needs. Unfortunately, despite these great benefits, due to the overwhelming demand for our programs, we can only accept siblings outside the school holidays.

Given this information, I hope that you will be able to grant your pupil a special school leave. If you need any further details, please do not hesitate to email me or visit our website www.skiing4all.com. For testimonials in English you can also contact Kaimes School for children on the autistic spectrum. Their pupils have just visited us from Scotland during the term time for the reasons outlined above and will be returning again outside the school holidays next year.

Thank you very much for your help and understanding.

Kind regards

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read 'Wegner', written in black ink.

Anna Wegner

BSc (Lon), MSc (Lon), PhD Cand. (Cam)
Skiing4all Director & Founder