



Camps Policy

Purpose

- To provide students with the opportunity to visit a physical setting (geographically or historically) different from the school environment.
- To encourage independence and initiative through a social environment away from home.
- To engage students in co-operative situations over an extended time.
- To support learning in a variety of curriculum areas through the stimulus of the camping experience.
- To provide a program that promotes self-esteem, resourcefulness, independence, leadership, judgement, co-operation and tolerance.

Aims

- All students are encouraged to attend planned camps.
- The camp program provides meaningful and valuable experiences for all students through a camp situation.

Implementation

- Years 5 and 6 students will attend a 3 or 4-day camp.
- Years 3 and 4 will attend at least an overnight camp.
- Year 2 will attend a sleepover at the school.
- Years Prep and 1 will attend activities outside of normal school hours.
- All camps will be budgeted for at the beginning of the year with detailed and accurate costings presented to the Principal. Parents will be notified of the exact costs and other relevant details of individual camps as soon as possible.
- Students will not be excluded from camps for financial reasons. If financial difficulty is experienced by those who wish for their children to attend camp, they will be required to discuss their individual situation with the Principal. Decisions relating to alternative payment arrangements will be made by the Principal on a case-by-case basis.
- All families will be given sufficient time to make payments for individual camps. A reminder notice will be sent a fortnight before the departure date. Students whose payments have not been finalised at least two school days before the departure date will not be allowed to attend unless alternative payment arrangements have been organised with the Principal.
- Any family who has not met the required payment for a previous camp will be unable to participate in the camping program until this payment is finalised, unless negotiated with the Principal.
- Office staff will be responsible for managing and monitoring the payments made by parents and will provide classroom teachers with detailed records on a regular basis.
- A 'Teacher in Charge' will be designated for each camp to ensure that all camps, bus arrangements and camp activities comply with DET guidelines. The teacher in charge of each excursion will ensure that all transport arrangements, supervision and excursion activities comply with DET guidelines. This includes determining the risk of bushfire and acting accordingly.
- All students will be required to provide written permission from their parents to attend the camp, as well as a completed 'Confidential Medical Information' form.
- Any student medications that are required will be administered by a designated person and checked by a second person. Medications must be clearly labelled with clear instructions in writing from parents.
- Adults may be invited to assist in the delivery of school camps. When deciding on which adults will attend, the camp organiser and Principal will consider:
 - Any valuable skills/expertise the adults should offer eg. bus licence, first aid, etc.
 - Contribution to the school.
 - The need to include both male and female adults.
 - The special needs of students.

- Adults attending a school camp will be required to have a current policy check and working with children check.
- The Principal will make the final decision to exclude a student from attending camp. Parents will be notified if a student is in danger of losing their invitation to participate in a camping experience.
- Parents will be requested to collect their child from camp if their child exhibits behaviour that is considered unacceptable or is unwell. The 'Teacher in Charge', in consultation with the Principal, will make this decision. Costs incurred will be the responsibility of the parent, including ambulance transportation if required.

Evaluation

- It is the responsibility of the School Council to monitor the implementation of this policy. Feedback from
- students staff and parents will be considered when reviewing this policy.
- Post camp activities, displays, newsletter articles and assembly presentations.
- Participation of students.

Policy evaluation and review

This policy will be reviewed by the Policies sub-committee of School Council as per the review cycle.

Policy Reviewed and Ratified – November 2017