

## **Camps**

### **Purpose**

The purpose of school camps is to:

- link the outside world with students schooling through direct experiences in different settings
- develop children's awareness, appreciation and conservation of differing environments
- foster personal development including self-esteem, confidence, tolerance, cooperation, sharing, independence, adaptability and self responsibility through positive social interactions between peers and adults.
- develop skills and knowledge that may lead to involvement in worthwhile leisure pursuits.
- encourage responsible attitudes to personal and group safety in different settings.

### **Guidelines**

- The program is for Years 3–6 (students will have the opportunity to attend two school camps in either years 3 and 5 **or** years 4 and 6).
- Camps are held on a 2-year cycle.
- Programs are developed to support different learning styles and take full advantage of the particular environment being experienced.
- Where possible, Years 3-4 and 5-6 to have different camp opportunities.
- Camps are undertaken as a part of the total educational program and not as an isolated activity.
- All children will be supported and encouraged to participate. Where appropriate, additional support should be utilised for students with special needs to enable them to attend camp.
- Procedures as set down by the Department of Education will be adhered to before any camping or outdoor adventure activity is undertaken. This will include gaining School Council approval.
- The program is coordinated by a 'Camp Coordinator' in each Unit in full consultation with Unit members. The Camp Coordinator will be responsible for ensuring that all relevant approvals are gained and procedures adhered to.
- Parental involvement in camps is necessary and is encouraged, subject to a satisfactory Police Check and approval by the Principal and school staff.

All participants are expected to uphold school values prior to and during the camping experience.

**Evaluation**

Minor: A formal review will be held at the conclusion of each camp.

Major: At intervals in accordance with the Policy review cycle.

**Supporting documents**

School Occupational Health and Safety Manual

Health and Physical Education Policy

Equal Opportunities documentation