



CAMPS POLICY

BASIC BELIEFS

Our school community believes that camps offer children experiences that combine academic learning with social development and provide opportunities to learn in an environment other than the school setting.

GOALS

Through their involvement in the camping program, students will:

- Experience an extension to school based curriculum through field work and the unique stimulus of a camp based setting;
- Become aware of the environment, and enjoy, appreciate, care and be responsible for its preservation;
- Further develop their social and personal responsibility, confidence, initiative, leadership and independence; and
- Foster co-operation, communication and tolerance with fellow students, teachers and others.

GUIDELINES

1. All camps will be accredited with Australian Camps Association (ACA) and conducted in accordance with the guidelines in the Victorian Government Schools Reference Guide.
<http://www.education.vic.gov.au/school/principals/spag/safety/pages/excursions.aspx>
2. Children from grades 3 to 6 will have access to the camping program, except in extreme circumstance as determined by the principal.
 - Grades 3 and 4 for a maximum of two nights
 - Grades 5 and 6 for a maximum of four nights

3. Careful consideration will be given to the timing of camps to minimise the demands on family and school resources.
4. Venues will be selected to allow camps to provide a curriculum based or outdoor educational focus.
5. Camps will be planned in conjunction with curriculum programs at the appropriate Victorian Curriculum level.
6. The relevant Curriculum Coordinator, in consultation with the Leading Teacher, will be responsible for overseeing the planning and organisation of the camp. A Risk Assessment will be completed for all camps.
7. The implementation of the camp program will be the responsibility of all relevant grade teachers.
8. The Curriculum Leadership Team will seek School Council approval of camps prior to the year.
9. School Council will be responsible for the approval of camp volunteers, subject to a satisfactory Working With Children Check (WWCC).
10. A copy of all relevant camp documentation is filed in the school's office.
11. A compilation of camp procedure documents will be maintained and linked to the Sentral portal.

RESPONSIBILITY FOR IMPLEMENTATION

The Curriculum Leadership Team will be responsible for the implementation and continuous monitoring of the policy.

DATE PASSED BY SCHOOL COUNCIL

The Camps Policy was passed by School Council on 23rd October 2017.

PROPOSED DATE OF REVIEW

The Learning Sub-Committee will be responsible for coordinating and planning the review of the Camps policy, under the auspices of School Council. The review period will be three years from the policy being passed by School Council.