

OUTDOOR EDUCATION POLICY

PURPOSE:

- To develop, through interaction in adventure activities with others, the knowledge, values and skills which enhance safe access, understanding and aesthetic appreciation of the outdoors.

GENERAL AIMS:

To ensure each child has:

- The opportunity to learn in outdoor settings which can stimulate interest and enhance a student's knowledge and awareness of the natural environment.
- The opportunity to acquire skills and knowledge that may lead to lifelong involvements in leisure pursuits.
- Enjoyable learning experiences which can promote his or her self-esteem, resourcefulness, independence, leadership, cooperation and tolerance.
- An increasing awareness of the interrelationships between humans and natural systems.
- Experiences which enhance responsible attitudes towards personal and group safety.

GUIDELINES:

- The basis of curriculum planning will be derived from **AusVELS** and National Curriculum document.
- Programs will be developed in Outdoor Education.
- Where possible, the units of work within the programs will be integrated with other key learning areas.
- A system of evaluation as well as assessment and reporting procedures will be incorporated into the program.
- The programs should foster development of oneself:
 - the ability to learn through an interactive situation
 - positive interdependence between members of a group
 - the understanding of and commitment to individual accountability
 - explicit training in interpersonal skills and the ability to reflect upon the experience
- **Prep**- Children from prep will have the opportunity to attend a Prep Breakfast at the College.
- **Grade 1**- Children from grades 1 will have the opportunity to attend fun and challenging activities and BBQ night at the College.

- **Grade 2-** Children from grades 2 will have the opportunity to attend a sleep over night with fun and challenging activities at the College.
- **Grade 3/4-** Children from grades 3 and 4 will have the opportunity to attend a camp at an appropriate venue. Held every two years.
- **Grade 5/6-** Children from grades 5 and 6 will have the opportunity to attend a camp at an appropriate venue that is stimulating and provides enriching experiences.
- **Year 7-**Students from Year 7 will have the opportunity to attend a camp at an appropriate venue.
- **Year 8-** Students from Year 8 will have the opportunity to attend a camp at an appropriate venue.
- **Year 9-** students have the opportunity to participate in a City Experience. Such activities could include: an overnight stay in Melbourne's CBD and opportunities to visit and participate in activities at The Big Issue, fitness first, circus skills that focus on team work and co-operation as well as orienteering, reading maps and timetables for public transport.

** Camps may be changed with discussion and confirmation of the Principal.

IMPLEMENTATION

- Staffing to be expanded by the utilisation of extra parents on all excursions and camps. A worthwhile alternative program will be provided for those students remaining at school.
- All students will be encouraged to attend our school camp.
- Parents will be informed as to the philosophy and the planning for each camping program.
- Parents will be informed well in advance of any camps offered to their children.

EVALUATION:

- This policy to be reviewed as part of the school's two year review cycle, individually, in teams and with the community in 2016.