

# 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 VELs 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.
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- **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 disco and BBQ night at the College.
  - **Grade 2**- Children from grades 2 will have the opportunity to attend a sleep over night at the College.
  - **Grade 3/4**- Children from grades 3 and 4 will have the opportunity to attend a 3 day camp to Portsea.
  - **Grade 5/6**- Children from grades 5 and 6 will have the opportunity to attend a 5 day camp to Forest Edge Adventure Resort. (weather permitting the children are given the opportunity to elect to attend a day at snow activities at Mt Baw Baw. Students not attending snow day go to Gumbya Park for a day out.)
  - **Year 7**-Students from Year 7 will have the opportunity to attend a camp to Canberra
  - **Year 8**- Students from Year 8 will have the opportunity to attend a camp to the Northern Territory Camp Experience
  - **Year 9**- students have the opportunity to participate in a City Experience. This involves 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. There will be a worthwhile alternative program 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 camp.

## EVALUATION:

- This policy to be reviewed as part of the school's two year review cycle, individually, in teams and with the community in 2014.