CAMP POLICY - 2014

To be reviewed: 2017

RATIONALE:

School camps are learning experiences which enhance the students understanding of the curriculum through hands on activities, and through the opportunity to participate communally in a variety of physical and social experiences. School camps are an integral part of the educational program of the school and serve to provide opportunities and experiences that are not always possible within the confines of the school.

AIMS:

• To provide opportunities that develops deeper learning, confidence, independence, responsibility and a sense of community within the context of our Catholic principles and values.

• To develop the social and emotional skills of being away from home and interacting with peers and teachers.

• To support the students as they develop independence, self-awareness and responsibility within a different educational setting.

• To encourage each student in their ability to work cooperatively.

• To develop the skills and knowledge necessary related to the camp setting.

IMPLEMENTATION:

• As the School Camp forms part of the curriculum program all students are expected to attend

• An annual three day Camping program for Level Five and Six on a two yearly cycle with an – a) Educational and b) Outdoor Education focus.

• Notice of the Camp will be recorded on the Student Activity Locator. The Camp will run in accordance with guidelines from the Catholic Education Office, Melbourne, Department of Education, Employment and Training and the ‘Safety in Outdoor Adventure Activities’ booklet. At least one staff member for every 10 students must be provided.

• Parents/carers will be informed of the agenda and the specific activities.

• The parents/carers will meet all costs associated with the Camp. Where practicable parents/carers will be informed of the approximate cost of the activity.
at least a term in advance. In the case of financial hardship, and at the Principal’s
discretion, part payment of the Camp cost may be waived.

- Where possible, male and female staff will accompany the students to Camp.

- Should additional personnel be required they must have a Working With Children
  Check.

- Information about the Camp will be sent home as early as possible prior to the
  activity. The relevant paperwork must be signed and returned to school by the due
date.

- A minimum of two staff attending the Camp will have Level Two First Aid
  Training.

- Parents of students who have a long-term or short-term illness or injury, which
  may affect their participation in the Camp, will be required to attend a meeting
  with school staff prior to the Camp. The Principal must be present at this meeting
to ascertain all legal, medical and other requirements.

- The school will liaise with local medical providers (Hospital and Rural
  Ambulance) when children attend who have severe allergies (anaphylaxis)/
  medical conditions.

- Students who continually display non co-operative behaviour at school will be
  required to attend a meeting between parents, Principal and class teacher(s) to
discuss expected Camp behaviour.

- Students who are not taking part in the Camp are required to attend school as
  usual.

- Ongoing assessment of a Camp’s facilities will occur to determine its suitability
  for our students.

- School staff reserve the right to withdraw any group or individual from a
  particular activity if there are concerns about suitability or safety or for any other
  reason.

- Students and parents are required to sign an agreement, which sets out procedures
to be followed in the event of students not complying with Camp Rules.

- Parents will be required to attend the Camp to collect their child if he/she is
  injured, unwell or has not complied with the Camp Agreement.

**EVALUATION:**

The Camping program will be evaluated by the staff directly involved and by the
school staff. The staff directly involved will, within one month of the Camp taking
place, formally evaluate the program and file their written report in the Camp file in the Principal’s office. Feedback will also be invited from the students.

This policy will be reviewed by the staff and Education Board as part of the school’s three-year cycle.