

ARMADALE PRIMARY SCHOOL POLICY

SCHOOL No. 2634

Camping Policy

Authorisation: By the Armadale Primary School Council
October 2013
Recommended: By the Curriculum & Policy Sub Committee

Review Date: It is recommended that this policy is reviewed by
the Curriculum & Policy Sub Committee by October 2016

1. PURPOSE

1.1. The purpose of School Camps is to develop an appreciation of social; cultural and outdoor education and personal development skills through interaction with others and the responsible use of the human and natural environment. These camps involve the acquisition of knowledge, values and skills that enhance an understanding and aesthetic appreciation of non-school settings, often through adventure and co-operative team building activities.

2. OBJECTIVES

- 2.1. Our camping program will facilitate the objectives of outdoor education and personal development by providing children with:
- 2.2. the motivation for learning of academic skills; opportunity for the practical application of knowledge gained in the classroom
- 2.3. the opportunity for broadening and enriching the students' academic, physical and social development
- 2.4. the climate for the development of initiative, cooperation, self-reliance, responsibility and independence
- 2.5. the occasion for the growth of respect and care for the environment the opportunity for staff and students to gain valuable insight in other areas of learning.

3. IMPLEMENTATION

3.1. The school will:

- 3.1.1. Provide a range of camping experiences covering outdoor education, environmental education, social development, initiative and group building skills together with a range of cultural and historical understandings
- 3.1.2. Provide a camping experience for all students in Levels 4 and 6 each year, ranging from 3 days in Level 4, to 4 or 5 days in Level 6
- 3.1.3. Ensure that camps have full accreditation with the Camping Association of Victoria and offer a full and stimulating program with qualified program staff. The accommodation should be of a good standard and will generally be in lodges or huts fitted with approved smoke alarms
- 3.1.4. Ensure that costs are kept to a reasonable level to allow maximum participation.
- 3.1.5. Give parent at least a month's notice of the costs incurred in attending the camp and allow for deposit and instalment payments. Allow for some financial assistance where deemed appropriate by the principal
- 3.1.6. Use only seat belted buses for all travel associated with the camps
- 3.1.7. Follow a two-year cycle i.e. 2 high quality camps for Level 4 and Level 6. This will provide the best range of camping experiences for all students.
- 3.1.8. Where full payment has been made for a school camp and a child is unable to attend, a full refund will be made to parents up to one week prior to the camp. If the school is notified in the week prior to the camp, an appropriate pro-rata refund will be made to parents based on the school's out of cost expenses and all these decisions will be made on a case by case basis.
- 3.1.9. Ensure that the embarking and disembarking process is smooth and well-organised

3.2. Staff will:

- 3.2.1. Evaluate each camp to provide feedback to both the camp and the school
- 3.2.2. Communicate with parents before, during and after the camp, a range of information about the camp as appropriate
- 3.2.3. Provide the students with relevant activities both before and after the camp
- 3.2.4. Encourage students to display sensitivity, empathy and respect toward all others whilst on camp
- 3.2.5. Follow the Armadale Primary School Staff Code of Conduct and exercise appropriate duty of care of the students and all emergency management procedures
- 3.2.6. Follow the Armadale Primary School's Student Welfare procedures.

3.3. Parents will:

- 3.3.1. Ensure that all notices, forms and payments are returned by due date
- 3.3.2. Supply their children with all of the clothing and other items specified in the camp information
- 3.3.3. Support the staff in their application of any Student Engagement procedures at camp.
- 3.3.4. Ensure that children are well enough to attend the camp
- 3.3.5. Ensure that they are able to be contacted at all times

3.4. Students will:

- 3.4.1. Adhere to the school's Student Engagement Policy and school rules whilst on camp
- 3.4.2. Abide by the specific rules of the camp
- 3.4.3. Willingly cooperate with all duties and requirements at camp
- 3.4.4. Treat all staff, teachers, parents and camp personnel with respect and show courtesy and manners at all times.

4. EVALUATION

4.1. The Policy will be evaluated by teachers and parents by observing whether the objectives of the policy are being met through the school program.