

OUTDOOR EDUCATION

NARANGA SCHOOL POLICY

Rationale:

- Outdoor adventure activities provide students with the opportunity of experiencing a sense of achievement through participating in a variety of challenging outdoor situations. Such experiences develop skills, as well as build confidence, self-esteem and teams.

Aims:

- To provide students with challenging but safe outdoor adventure activities and programs designed to develop skills, confidence, self-esteem and team skills.
- To ensure **occupational health and safety guidelines** are followed.

Implementation:

- Outdoor Education is defined as any adventure activity that involves greater than normal risk such as base camping, bush walking, canoeing, snow activities, orienteering, cycling, horse riding, rock climbing and abseiling, challenge ropes courses, swimming (other than school swimming programs), surf activities, water skiing, snorkelling, sailing, sailboarding and similar activities.
- The primary reference that must be consulted and complied with when considering all such activities is the DET guidelines.
- Staff have a duty of care to take such measures as are reasonable to protect students in their care from risks of injury that the staff should have reasonably foreseen.
- Effective risk and safety management processes must be implemented to ensure that all outdoor adventure activities are planned and conducted safely. This will involve the identification and management of hazards, identification and management of risks and safety issues, the development of a safety management plan and avoiding serious hazards and risks that cannot be satisfactorily controlled.
- Emergency management plans will be developed when adventure activities are being undertaken.
- Parents must provide written consent for students to be involved in outdoor adventure activities. In providing such consent parents must be provided with sufficient detail regarding the nature of the activity, the risks involved and the degree of supervision.
- DET staff/student ratios, staff qualifications/experience, student skill/knowledge acquisition, equipment and clothing requirements, organisational requirements and management processes and all other DET recommendations and requirements will be complied with at all times.
- Completed student medical forms, adequate first aid kits and mobile phones will be provided and carried at all times by staff.
- The DET 'Notification of School Activity' proforma will be completed as required.

Evaluation:

- This policy will be reviewed as part of the school's regular review cycle.

• This policy was last ratified by School Council in....

July 2015

To be read in conjunction with Naranga school "Camping" and "Excursions" policies.