



## KALINDA PRIMARY SCHOOL

Policy: **OUTDOOR EDUCATION (CAMPS)**

Reviewed: 2007

### **RATIONALE**

Outdoor education focuses on personal development through responsible interaction with others and responsible use of the natural environment. It involves the acquisition of knowledge, values and skills that enhance safe access, understanding and aesthetic appreciation of the outdoors, if possible, through adventure activities. The program may need to vary according to different models of school organisation. Outdoor education includes outdoor experiences, excursions, sleepovers, camps.

### **AIMS**

To foster the development of:

- confidence and independence;
- co-operation between individuals and groups;
- teacher/student/parent relationships;
- leadership skills;
- skills in areas of personal hygiene, bushcraft and recreational usage;
- understanding the relationship between classroom learning and the outside world;
- a responsible attitude towards the environment and a willingness to protect and preserve it;
- responsible attitudes towards personal and group safety in the outdoors.

### **IMPLEMENTATION**

- The Outdoor Education Program will be on-going including all levels, Prep. to 6, each year.
- All students should be encouraged to participate in the program.
- Outdoor Education will be integrated with other curriculum areas and a camping program which will comply with DEECD guidelines.
- All camps need to Risk Management Plan from 1/1/2008.
- Students in VELS Level 3 will experience a biannual external camp, alternated with a school-based activity program.
- Students in VELS Level 4 will experience an alternative annual camp, Canberra touring trip and under canvas at Queenscliff.
- All costs shall be met by participating student's parents, although the Principal may initiate special arrangements for parents in genuine financial need.
- On any camp, after staff have been selected, parents will be used to make up the shortfall of the supervising adults.
- All parents attending camp must undergo a "Working with Children" check. (Refer: Working with Children Policy and Volunteers Policy)
- The school would prefer to use camps and companies where all staff and adults have undergone a police check.
- An alternative education program will be provided for students not participating in outdoor ed. activities.
- The Principal may exclude any students likely to jeopardise the well-being and safety of the individual or group participating in the activity.
- Unless specifically budgeted for, each program should be self-funding.
- There must be at least one Level 2 First-Aid trained adult attending the camp.
- Buses with seat belts, where possible, will be used when travel is beyond the local school cluster.
- Responsibility for this policy and its implementation rests with the Principal or nominee.
- Refer to Volunteers Policy, Mobile Phone Policy, Risk Management Policy, Working With Children Policy.

### **EVALUATION**

This policy will be reviewed as part of the school's three year review cycle.

This policy was ratified by School Council October, 2007