



School Camps Policy

Purpose:

The camping policy across the school to reflect the emotional needs of students at various ages, and be staggered in growth to provide supportive, purposeful experiences.

Experiences of children outside the classroom contribute to the development of their understandings, skills and attitudes. Providing opportunities for students to learn from the wider community reinforces the school curriculum. Children develop social skills, group responsibilities and independence in a different context, away from daily home and school routines.

Aims:

Chewton Primary School will offer camps for students that:

- Provide appropriate curriculum based excursions
- Reinforce, complement and extend learning opportunities beyond the classroom.
- Provides programs that promote self-esteem, resourcefulness, independence, leadership, cooperation and tolerance.
- Extend understanding of their physical and cultural environment.

Implementation:

- Students in Grades 2 - 6 to participate in cluster camp with other schools
- Students in Grades Prep -6 to be involved in Chewton only camps when applicable.
- The principal is responsible for approving all educational camps.
- The principal will ensure that full records are submitted to school council regarding the camp well in advance of the starting date of the event and that no camp occurs unless all the formal record keeping has been completed and approved.
- All aspects of the camp will be outlined to parents in writing, including cost, sleeping arrangements, itinerancy, activities clothing lists, phone contacts, transport arrangements, medical forms and clearly stated payments.
- Copies of completed permission notes and medical information must be accessible at the camp location by staff at all times.
- All teachers participating in a camp owe a duty of care to the students for the duration and type of the excursion/camp, including meeting needs of Special Needs Students.
- Schools must ensure all health, safety and duty of care requirements and precautions are taken prior to and during the excursion/camp, as per Regulatory requirements.
- The school will completed the 'Notification of School Activity' online at www.eduweb.vic.gov.au/forms/school/sal/enteractivity.asp 3 weeks prior to the camp departure date.
- Only approved transport companies will be used and bookings are made by the Principal.
- The Education Department only provides public liability insurance, workers compensation cover for employees and cover for voluntary workers for approved excursions/camps – not for personal accidents through misadventure or loss or damage to personal belongings.
- All efforts will be made not to exclude students for financial reason. Decisions relating to alternative payments will be made by the principal in consultation with the staff and Business Manager on an individual basis.
- All students with intellectual or physical disabilities will be catered for.
- Parents attending the camp must have a working with children's check.
- One staff member will be designated to take responsibility of administering student medication if required following consultation with parents.
- Parents will be requested to collect their child from the camp is they exhibit behaviour that is considered unacceptable or a danger to others. Costs incurred will the responsibility of the parent.

- All camps will be cancelled to areas that have been declared as total fire ban if the school is not satisfied that there correct protections are in place.
- All camps will be cancelled if the area of the camp is declared extreme or code red or expected to be declared as such with forecast predictions

All excursions/camps must comply with current school and DEECD policy and procedures.

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

This statement was ratified by School Council on 13/8/2014