The school's camping program enables students to further their learning and social skills development in a non-school setting. Camps may have a cultural, environmental or outdoor emphasis and are an important aspect of the educational programs offered at our school.

AIMS

- To provide all children with the opportunity to participate in a sequential camping program.
- To provide shared class experiences and a sense of group cohesiveness.
- To reinforce and extend classroom learning.
- To provide a program that delivers skills and knowledge that may lead to a lifelong involvement in worthwhile leisure pursuits.
- To provide a program that promotes self-esteem, resourcefulness, independence, leadership, judgment, cooperation and tolerance.

IMPLEMENTATION

- A camp is defined as any activity involving at least one night’s accommodation.
- The program will be developed sequentially throughout the school.
- All camps will be budgeted for at the beginning of the year with detailed and accurate costing presented to the Principal as soon as possible. Parents will be notified of the exact costs and other relevant details of individual camps as soon as practicable.
- Efforts will be made not to exclude students from camps simply for financial reasons. Parents experiencing financial difficulty, who wish for their children to attend camp, will be required to discuss their individual situation with the Principal. Decisions relating to alternative payment arrangements / payment plans will be made by the Principal on a case-by-case basis.
- All families will be given sufficient time to make payments for individual camps. Parents will be sent reminder notices a fortnight before the camp departure date reminding them of the need to finalise payment. Children whose payments have not been finalised at least two school days before the departure date will not be allowed to attend unless alternative payment arrangements have been organised with the Principal.
- Office staff will be responsible for managing and monitoring the payments made by parents and will provide classroom teachers with detailed records on a regular basis.
- The designated “Teacher in Charge” of each camp will ensure that all camps, bus arrangements and camp activities comply with DEECD guidelines. The “Notification of School Activity” will be completed online prior to the camp departure date. All students will be required to provide written permission from their parents to attend the camp, as well as a completed “Confidential Medical Information for School Council Approved Excursions” form.
- The designated Teacher in Charge will ensure procedures relating to MPS Anaphylaxis Policy (Camps & Remote Settings) Guidelines are adhered to as required.
- Classroom teachers will be given the first option to attend camps.
- Mobile phones will be taken to camp
- The Teacher in Charge will communicate with the office in regards the anticipated return time.
- Parents may be invited to assist in the delivery of school camps. When deciding on which parents will attend, the staff will take into account –
  - Any valuable skills the parents have to offer. e.g. bus license, first aid etc.
  - The need to include both male and female parents.
  - The special needs of particular students.
- Parent volunteers may be required to pay the accommodation and meals cost of the camp.
• Only children who have displayed sensible, reliable behavior at school will be invited to participate in the camping program. Parents will be notified if a child is in danger of losing their invitation to participate in a camping experience due to poor behavior at school. If the unsatisfactory behavior continues, the child will then be excluded from camp. The decision to exclude a student will be made by the Principal, in consultation with the classroom teacher.

• Parents will be requested to collect their child from camp if their child exhibits behavior that is considered unacceptable. The Teacher in Charge, in consultation with the Principal, will make this decision. Costs incurred will be the responsibility of the parent.

• All camps require School Council approval.

Evaluation:

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