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# Hawthorn West Primary School Camp Policy

## Rationale

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 education emphasis and are an important aspect of the educational programs offered at our school.

## Program Objectives

- To provide all children with the opportunity to participate in a sequential camping program.
- To provide a shared student experience and a sense of group cohesiveness.
- To reinforce and extend the classroom learning's.
- To provide a program that promotes self-esteem, resourcefulness, resilience, independence, leadership, judgement, cooperation and tolerance.
- To provide a program that delivers skills and knowledge that may lead to a life long involvement in outdoor leisure pursuits.

## Implementation:

- The school camping program will be developed sequentially throughout the school commencing in grade 3.
- Parents will be informed about the camp and approximate costs at least 3 months prior to the camp.
- The School Council will ensure that all school Camps are maintained at a reasonable and affordable cost.
- The School Council will ensure compliance with all DEECD procedures and practices.
- Parents must provide written permission for a student to attend camp.
- Students will not be excluded from attending a camp for financial reasons. Parents experiencing financial difficulty will be required to discuss their individual situation with the Principal. Decisions relating to alternative payment arrangements will be made by the Principal on a case by case basis.
- Parents selected to assist with the camps program will be required to provide a current Working With Children's check.
- Adult to student ratio of 1:10 is to apply.
- Camp locations and proposed program is to be submitted to Council for approval.

**DEFINITIONS**

A **camp** is an activity involving at least one night's accommodation.

**EVALUATION**

This policy was endorsed by the Hawthorn West Primary School Council at a committee meeting on 23<sup>rd</sup> October 2013 and is subject to review every 3 years.