



## **CAMPS**

*Revised January 2016*

### **Introduction**

Somers Primary School strongly believes that camping experiences, skills and knowledge is an important part of a student's whole education.

### **Aims**

- To provide a range of educational experiences throughout the student's primary years.
- To allow all students an opportunity to participate in the program.
- To develop students' social interaction and independence.
- To provide activity based camps to supplement the upper school curriculum.
- To support and enhance all the Key Learning Areas where possible.

### **Implementation**

DEET guidelines will be followed using the DEET Booklet on Camps published in 1998.

Payment for a camp will be sought before a student can attend. A voucher system may be used for payment. If other arrangements are required this is to be done via the Principal in conjunction with the School Council.

School Council permission **must** be sought for camps.

Staff will coordinate the camps and a coordinator will be appointed for each camp.

The staff will select camps. Accredited camps will only be used.

The School Camping Program will relate directly to the school curriculum.

There will be a range of school camps undertaken over Years 3-6, including camps that relate to curriculum other than Physical Education.

## TIMELINE FOR CAMP DOCUMENTATION

- **Information must not go out without School Council permission for the approval of camps. Preference will be given to buses with seatbelts. Parents will be given notification of whether or not the buses used have seatbelts.**
- **Where practical, two terms in advance of camp**, the following information will be sent home for parents - camp venue, dates, cost, payment plan and the teacher in-charge. This is looking for a commitment from parents to see how many children will be attending the camp, along with the opportunity to start an instalment payment system. The “Expression of Interest” for parents that wish to attend camp as parent helpers, will be sent home at the same time.
- **End of term prior to camp, where practical**, the Parent Selection Process will be completed, with notification being sent out to those parents who will be attending School Camp as a parent helper, along with a thankyou letter to those parents who were not successful in their application. Parents may be selected on the basis of skill required, i.e. doctors and nurses, parent of children with special needs. In all other cases, selection will be conducted by ballot.
- **Three weeks prior to attending camp**, the coordinator in charge of the camp will fax Appendix C to the **EMERGENCY AND SECURITY MANAGEMENT BRANCH on fax 9589 0543**.
- **Two weeks prior to departing**, Medical Forms,” What to bring information,” etc will be sent home.
- **One week prior to departing**, all final arrangements, reminder notices etc along with the “Camp Booklet” (that will contain *Student Behaviour, Camp Contract, refer to Camping and Bush Activities, Appendix A, Question 5*) will be sent home. The camp contract should be discussed at home, then signed by the child and parent/guardian and returned to School before departing to camp.
- **The Camp Booklet** will consist of approximately 6-8 pages with information relating to the camp, such as sleeping arrangements, a map of the location of the camp, camp diary, cross words, word searches etc. that are related to the camp. (The Behaviour Contract will be included in the camp booklet, which will go home to be discussed between parents and their child/ren attending camp and returned to School before departing).

**All medication forms must be handed in to the teacher in charge prior to leaving.** All containers must be labelled with the child’s name, the dose to be taken and when it should be taken. (This will be kept in the first aid centre and distributed as required. If it is necessary or appropriate for the child to carry his/her own medication, e.g. asthma puffers or insulin for diabetes, it must be with the knowledge and approval of both the teacher in charge and the parent).

All medication given to children attending camp will be recorded on the Camp Medication Form, signed by the teacher administering the medication and counter-signed by another adult.