Kennington Primary School
OUTDOOR EDUCATION POLICY

Rationale:
Outdoor Education activities provide students with the opportunity of experiencing a sense of achievement through participating in a variety of challenging outdoor situations. Such experiences develop skills, build confidence, self esteem, initiative and team skills.

Aims:
To provide students with challenging but safe outdoor adventure activities and programs designed to develop skill, confidence, self esteem, initiative and team skills.

Implementation:
- Outdoor Education Policy should be read in conjunction with the Camping Policy.
- Outdoor Education activities are those that involve greater than normal risk such as bush walking, canoeing, orienteering, cycling, archery, rock climbing and abseiling, challenge ropes courses, swimming (other than school swimming programs), rock pooling and similar activities.
- The primary references that must be consulted and complied with when considering all such activities is the DEECD ‘Safety in Outdoor Adventure Activities’ website and SOTF reference guide section.
- Outdoor Education activities are part of the Health and Physical Education Domain in the VELS Strand of Physical, Personal and Social Learning.
- Educators owe all students a duty of care; to take such measures as are reasonable to protect students in their care from risks of injury that the educator should have reasonably foreseen.
- Effective risk and safety management processes must be implemented to ensure that all outdoor adventure activities are planned and conducted safely. This will basically involve the identification and management of hazards, risks and safety issues through the development of a safety management plan, and avoiding hazards and risks that cannot be satisfactorily controlled.
- School Council approval must be given prior to students participating in adventure activities.
- Parents must provide written consent for students to be involved in outdoor adventure activities. In providing such consent parents must be provided with sufficient detail regarding the nature of the activity, the risks involved, and the degree of supervision. Detailed medical information is required from parents.
- DEECD staff/student ratios, staff qualifications/experience, student skill/knowledge acquisition, equipment and clothing requirements, organisational requirements and management processes, and all other DEECD recommendations and requirements will be complied with at all times.
- Emergency management plans are to be developed when adventure activities are being undertaken.
- Completed student medical forms, adequate first aid kits, and mobile phones will all be with supervising adults during adventure activities. The DEECD ‘Notification of School Activity’ proforma and other relevant forms will completed as required.

Evaluation:
This statement will be reviewed as part of the school’s tri-annual review cycle.

This statement was last ratified by School Council in November 2009