BACKGROUND
Camps are seen as an integral part of the school curriculum as they enable students to explore, extend and enrich their learning and social skills development, in a non-school setting. The planning and organisation of Camps follows DEECD School Policy and Advisory Guide on Excursions and Activities.

PURPOSE:
1. To stimulate and extend the classroom curriculum and provide an opportunity for students to understand that the school is part of the wider community.
2. To develop each student’s self-confidence, self-reliance and independence.
3. To promote teamwork and the concept of community spirit and engagement.
4. To enhance skills and learning.

GUIDELINES:
1. All students in Years 7 – 10 are required to attend their year level camp.
2. Students are required to make an application to attend additional camps (e.g. ski camp) and can only attend if the student has attended or will attend, the year level camp.
3. Students will not be excluded from year level camps because their families are experiencing financial difficulty.

IMPLEMENTATION:
1. At the beginning of the school year, parents are provided with information about the camp dates and approximate costs.
2. DEECD consent forms and appropriate medical forms must be signed and returned to the school by due dates.
3. To protect the health and safety of all students and teachers, School Council reserves the right to postpone a school camp if advised that there is a risk of bushfires and there will be no camps planned in parts of the State with a high bushfire risk, from November to end of February.
4. A Co-ordinator ensures that the overall proposal, planning and costing of each camp adheres to DEECD policies on student preparation and behaviour, parent/carer consent planning and approvals, staffing and supervision, safety, emergency and risk management.
5. Money for camps is not refunded unless a medical certificate is provided, or in exceptional circumstances.
6. Parents experiencing financial difficulty, who wish their children to attend camp, should discuss their individual situation with the Business Manager. Decisions relating to alternative payment arrangements are made by the Business Manager on a case-by-case basis.

EVALUATION
1. Students will be asked to evaluate the camp experience, and this information will be used to plan future camps.
RESOURCES:
1. School Camps file
2. DEECD School Policy and Advisory Guide, Excursions and Activities
3. DEECD, Safety, Emergency and Risk Management, Excursions and Activities,
4. Elwood College, Code of Conduct

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