



ALVIE CONSOLIDATED SCHOOL

Camps – Excursions – Incursions – Tours Policy

Policy Number 06

1. BACKGROUND

Our school's camps, excursion, and incursion program enables students to explore, extend and enrich their learning and social skill development. Activities (as defined in Section 3 of this policy) complement all aspects of the school's educational program, whilst providing further opportunities in the development of student confidence and self-esteem. Camps, excursions and incursions may have a cultural, environmental or outdoor emphasis and are an important aspect of the educational programs offered at our school.

The School Principal is responsible for the conduct of all excursions and must ensure:

- adequate venue selection
- safety, emergency and risk management
- informed consent from parents and student medical information
- appropriate staffing and supervision
- student preparation and behaviour
- department requirements are met for any adventure activities.

Our School must also ensure that:

- students are adequately prepared for excursions
- disciplinary measures for students on excursions are appropriate and consistent with our Student Engagement and Guidelines.

2. PURPOSE & AIMS

The purpose of this policy is to:

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

Our School aims to:

- Build a school environment based on our School Values of Excellence, Respect, and Tolerance
- Provide successful activities that are cost effective, safe and well attended
- Manage unacceptable behaviour in a positive and professional manner and establish well understood and logical consequences for student inappropriate behaviour
- Ensure excursions are planned and approved appropriately
- Ensure the selection of safe and suitable excursion venues
- Ensure excursions are appropriately staffed

3. PRINCIPLES & DEFINITIONS

Definition of ACTIVITIES

3.1 Excursion

An excursion is defined as an activity organised by our school (not including work experience) during which students leave the school grounds to engage in educational activities.

3.2 Incursions

Incursions are defined as any activity that involves school visitors who provide a performance or service for the students for a fee and which occurs within school grounds.

3.3 Camps / Outdoor or Adventure Excursions / Tours

- A **camp** is defined as any activity involving at least one night's accommodation (including sleep overs at school)
- A **tour** is defined as an activity arranged and run by a defined "Tour Company" E.g. G.E.T.
- **Adventure activities** are those that involve greater than normal risk such as base camping, bush walking, canoeing, caving, snow activities, orienteering, cycling, horse riding, rock climbing and abseiling, challenge ropes courses, gliding, swimming (other than school programs), surf activities, water skiing, snorkelling, scuba diving, shooting, sailing, sailboarding, and similar activities.

4. IMPLEMENTATION

School Council will ensure that all 'Activities' (as defined above) comply with all DEECD requirements as per the Schools Policy and Advisory Guide

<http://www.education.vic.gov.au/school/principals/spag/safety/Pages/excursions.aspx>

4.1 Planning of Activities

- 4.1.1 A designated 'Teacher in Charge' (TIC) will plan, coordinate, and oversee the smooth running of each activity (Excursion, Incursion, Camp or Tour)
- 4.1.2 An **APPLICATION TO CONDUCT A CAMP EXCURSION OR INCURSION** **must** be completed prior to any activity occurring (see Appendix 1).

When presenting information to the Principal, the TIC must be aware that the Principal will consider the following:-

- a. The purpose of the excursion and its connection to student learning
- b. That all attending staff members have the competence to provide the necessary supervision of students throughout the excursion
- c. At least one appropriately trained member of staff is able to provide [first aid](#)
- d. Supervisory adults who are not registered teachers have completed a Working with Children Check (see point 5)
- e. The location of staff and students throughout the excursion including during travel is documented and known and considered safe and appropriate
- f. A record of telephone contacts for supervising excursion staff is available and carried by the TIC
- g. A record of the names and family contacts for all students and staff is available and carried by the TIC
- h. Copies of the '[parental consent](#)' and '[confidential medical advice](#)' forms for those students on the excursion are available and carried by the TIC
- i. Copies of all completed and approved forms (including risk management plans- see appendix 4) are available and carried by the TIC
- j. The *Student Activity Locator Online Form* has been submitted three weeks prior to the excursion (as per requirements contained within the application form).

<http://www.education.vic.gov.au/school/principals/spag/safety/pages/excursionsafety.aspx>

- 4.1.3 An **APPLICATION TO CONDUCT A CAMP EXCURSION OR INCURSION** **must** be completed prior to any activity occurring (see Appendix 1).

- 4.1.4 Prior to the Excursion occurring, the "Excursion Checklist" (see Appendix 2) must be completed at least 2 days prior to the excursion or camp to ensure all planning processes have occurred.
- 4.1.5 APPROVAL by School Council of Excursions, Incursions, Camps or Tours is required where adventure activities or overnight stays are included. Interstate and/or Overseas tours also require approval by the DEECD. Reference should be made to these requirements from the DEECD Policy & Advisory Guide.

4.2 Risk Management and General Management during the Activity

- 4.2.1 If day excursions include adventure activities organising staff should consult the DEECD '[Adventure Activities](#)' website, or seek advice from peak bodies or skilled and experienced staff with recent experience instructing the activity to satisfy the principal's requirements.
- 4.2.2 The principal requires that a report from the Teacher in Charge occur after each activity if any mishaps or concerns have arisen including how improvement for prevention will occur for future activities of the same nature
- 4.2.3 Prior to seeking School Council approval for the activity (where the activity is considered adventure or is an overnight activity), organising staff are required to meet again with the principal and present him/her with all documentation, including the completed **APPLICATION TO CONDUCT AN EXCUSION** form (Alvie Consolidated School version of the DEECD School Council [Approval](#) Pro forma) and all required attachments. Planning staff should ensure that time permits for the matter to be placed on a School Council agenda.
- 4.2.4 The school will provide a mobile phone and a first-aid kit for all activities outside of the school.
- 4.2.5 Copies of completed Permission forms, signed Confidential Medical Forms, and an emergency phone contacts list must be carried by excursion/camp staff at all times.
- 4.2.6 Parents will be requested to collect their child from camp if their child exhibits behaviour that is considered unacceptable, unsafe to themselves or others, or they become unwell. The Teacher in Charge will make this decision. Costs incurred will be the responsibility of the parent.

4.3 Financial Considerations

- 4.3.1 The School Council will ensure that all school camps are maintained at a reasonable and affordable cost, and comply with all DEECD requirements.
- 4.3.2 All camps will be budgeted for with detailed and accurate costing presented to the Principal. Parents will be notified of the exact costs and other relevant details of individual camps as soon as practicable.
- 4.3.3 Students will not be excluded from camps or excursions 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 will be made by the Principal on a case-by-case basis.
- 4.3.4 All families will be given sufficient time to make payments for individual camps. 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.
- 4.3.5 To assist in financial matters, parents have an opportunity to sign over their "EMA" cheque if applicable to support Camps and Excursions for their child or children.
- 4.3.6 Any family who has not met the required alternative payment for a previous activity will be unable to participate in the continuation of the program or new programs until the outstanding payment is finalised.
- 4.3.7 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.

4.4 Student Inclusion and/or Exclusion from Activities

- 4.4.1 Students who do not attend activities will be provided with suitable alternative arrangements at school.
- 4.4.2 **ONLY** students who continually demonstrate sensible and reliable behaviour in accordance with our school 'Behaviour Guidelines' and our basic expectations and values, will be permitted to participate in activities.

NOTE: In consultation with the Teacher in Charge of an activity and or the Principal may determine a student's suitability to attend. Should the matter arise where a student may be deemed as "unsuitable" to attend a particular activity due to ongoing behaviour concerns or issues, parents will be notified. Where required or deemed necessary, *the final decision to exclude a student rests with the Principal in consultation with the Teacher in Charge of the activity and other necessary staff as deemed necessary or appropriate.*

Student SUSPENSION and Exclusion from Activities

Where a student has received an "External Suspension" the following criteria applies

Suspension Details	OUTCOME
1. Student has been suspended on ONE occasion for a period up to and including 2 school days.	Potential Exclusion from Activities as per 4.4.2 "NOTE"
2. Student has been suspended on ONE occasion for a period including 3 or more consecutive school days (or) 3. Student has encountered a SECOND suspension.	Exclusion from Activities <i>Exemption from this clause may apply where a student is required to attend the activity in order to meet a specific "Learning Outcome". Consultation with the Principal should occur where required in this instance.</i>

4.5 Parental Involvement

- 4.5.1 Parents may be invited to assist in the provision and supervision of school activities.
- 4.5.2 Parent volunteers may however be required to pay the accommodation and meals cost of the camp.
- 4.5.3 When deciding which parents will be invited to assist/attend, the Teacher in Charge will take into account;
- ✓ Any valuable skills the parents have to offer. e.g. bus licence, first aid etc
 - ✓ The need to include either or both male and female parents.
 - ✓ The special needs of particular students.
- 4.5.4 Parents selected to assist with activities may be required to undertake a Working with Children Check- Volunteer Status.

5. EVALUATION

This Policy will be reviewed as part of the School's ANNUAL review Cycle.

DEFINITIONS: As per those contained within the Policy

REFERENCES: As per those contained within the Policy & Appendix 1 & 2

DATE RATIFIED: Term 2 2015

DATE FOR REVIEW: Term 2 2016

Richard Szmidel
Principal

Elizabeth McLeod
School Council President



APPENDIX 1-

Pupil / Teacher Ratios

<p>Abseiling and Rock Climbing</p> <p>1:1 Rock Face 1:10 Others 2 Experienced Staff</p>	<p>Ropes Course</p> <p>1:12 3 students to any one element, 1 participating, 2 spotting NOTE: No student on any element unless supervised</p>
<p>Bass Camping</p> <p>1:10 Residential; canvas 1:15 Study: residential</p>	<p>Scuba Diving</p> <p>1:8 Pool training 1:4 Diving, 2 buddy systems NOTE: 2 qualified staff</p>
<p>Board Sailing</p> <p>1:3 Beginners 1:5 Novice; intermediate; advanced 2 Experienced sailors</p>	<p>Shooting</p> <p>1:1 New or inexperienced 1:5 On the track or mound 1:15 Observers or waiting</p>
<p>Boats, Small Sailing - (Dinghies, Catamarans)</p> <p>1:8 Enclosed Waters 1:6 Open Waters 1:4 Open Waters, Adverse</p>	<p>Snorkelling</p> <p>1:8 Closed water: pool 1:4 Open water NOTE: 2 qualified staff</p>
<p>Bushwalking</p> <p>1:5 Overnight 1:10 Day</p>	<p>Snow Activities</p> <p>1:8 Alpine, Nordic – overnight 1:10 Alpine, Nordic – day 1:10 Non-skiing</p>
<p>Canoeing</p> <p>1:6 2 Staff members</p>	<p>Surf Activities</p> <p>1:10 Beach 1:8 Surf NOTE: 1 teacher/instructor in water and NOTE 1 teacher/instructor on beach</p>
<p>Cycling</p> <p>1:10</p>	<p>Swimming</p> <p>1:20 Enclosed pools 1:10 Open water</p>
<p>Horse Riding</p> <p>1:1 Basics 1:5 Beginners 1:8 Semi-experienced Riding School: 1 Experienced teacher with instructor 2 Experienced teachers if no instructor or group exceeds 10</p>	<p>Water Skiing</p> <p>1:20 Shore 1 Student on two at any one time; if highly experienced two may be taken together 2 People in boat – driver and observer; one must be staff member</p>
<p>Orienteering</p> <p>1:10 Bush</p>	



This schedule is subject to review and change.

Year Level	Yearly Camp/s Location & When	Excursions	Possible Tours
Prep	NA	Arts Science or as required	
Year 1	NA	Arts Science or as required	
Year 2		Arts Science or as required	
Year 3	Melbourne Discovery/ Urban Camp Sovereign Hill- Ballarat Grampians, Cape Bridgewater		
Year 4	Melbourne Discovery/ Urban Camp Sovereign Hill- Ballarat Grampians Cape Bridgewater		
Year 5	Melbourne Discovery/ Urban Camp Sovereign Hill- Ballarat Grampians Cape Bridgewater		
Year 6	Melbourne Discovery/ Urban Camp Sovereign Hill- Ballarat Grampians Cape Bridgewater		



APPLICATION TO CONDUCT AN INCURSION – EXCURSION – CAMP – TOUR

This form is to be completed in the following time frames:

Day Excursion or Incursion- 3 weeks prior to excursion where possible.
Overnight and/or Adventure Excursion- 6 weeks prior to excursion.

Final cost per student \$.....
Payment due by:/...../.....

TYPE OF ACTIVITY (CIRCLE which one)	<i>INCURSION</i>	<i>EXCURSION</i>	<i>CAMP</i>	<i>TOUR</i>
Teacher making Application (TIC)				
Proposed date		Departure date & TIME	Return date & TIME	
Purpose / Description				
Location to Visit & Venue Address				
Student Information	Year Level/s	Number of Students	List of Student Names is ATTACHED YES NO	
Staff attending and any special qualification/s required?			Excursion Emergency Contact Phone Number?	
Parent helpers attending?			Are students required to wear uniform? YES NO	
Who is First Aid trained?			Method of Travel?	
Special Instructions for permission forms? <i>E.g. What to bring...</i>				

COMPLETE THE FOLLOWING TASKS IN ORDER AS STATED

PRIOR to APPROVAL	Date	Signed
1. Discuss activity with Principal		
2. Discuss with Heads of School either JNR or SNR		
3. See Business Manager for costing (and complete page 2 costing estimate as required)		
4. NOTIFY ALL staff of PROPOSED excursion/incursion via DL Email. COMPLETE table over page.		
5. Complete the attached Risk Management Assessment Form		
6. Book School bus or arrange alternative transport as required <i>If School bus indicate drivers name:</i> <i>(Or) Name of Bus Company or Transport Group:</i>		
If overnight or adventure excursion also complete these tasks	Date	Signed
1. Make accommodation and other bookings (e.g. tours etc.) <i>Attach Itinerary and Accommodation details to this application.</i>		
2. Complete section on Page 2 detailing all <i>Adventure Activities</i>		
3. Submit a copy of this application to the Principal for School Council approval		

Risk Management Assessment Form

Emergency Management Assessment

Assess each of the following hazards and any others you think relevant and complete table below:

1 Bushfires	5 Missing Student	9 Intruders
2 Severe storms and flooding	6 Medical Emergencies	10 Internal fires and smoke
3 Earthquake	7 Incidents	11 Snakes and other wildlife
4 School Bus Accident or Vehicle Incident	8 Aggressive student behaviour	12 Other relevant to camp area
		13 Other relevant to overall excursion

Likelihood	Very High				
	High				
	Moderate				
	Low				
		Low	Moderate	High	Very High
Impact					

Environmental Emergency	Potential Event (use number from above)	Risk Management Strategies
Very high or high likely-hood / very high or high impact		
Very high, High and moderate likelihood / Very high, high or moderate impact		
Very high, High, Moderate or Low likelihood / High and Very High Impact		

Emergency Services Phone Numbers and Locations:

Police - Phone: () _____ at _____

Fire - Phone: () _____ at _____

Doctor - Phone: () _____ at _____

Hospital - Phone: () _____ at _____

Ambulance - Phone: () _____ at _____

Other - Phone: () _____ at _____