

# TALBOT PRIMARY SCHOOL

## SAFETY FOR EDUCATION OUTDOORS POLICY

### **Rationale:**

- Outdoor adventure 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, as well as build confidence, self-esteem and teams.

### **Aims:**

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

### **Implementation:**

- To be read in conjunction with “Camping” and “Excursions” policies.
- 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 swimming programs), surf activities, water skiing, snorkelling, scuba diving, shooting, sailing, sailboarding, and similar activities.
- The primary references that must be consulted and complied with when considering all such activities is the Vic Govt Schools Reference Guide section 4.4.3 – Adventure Activities.  
[www.eduweb.vic.gov.au/referenceguide/](http://www.eduweb.vic.gov.au/referenceguide/)
- Outdoor adventure activities are part of both the Physical and Sport Education and the Outdoor Education components of the Health & Physical Education CSF.
- 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* of hazards, risks and safety issues, *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.
- 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 to be developed when adventure activities are being undertaken.
- Completed student medical forms, adequate first aid kits will all be provided.

- The online DEECD ‘Notification of School Activity’ proforma will be completed as required at : [www.eduweb.vic.gov.au/forms/school/sal/enteractivity.asp](http://www.eduweb.vic.gov.au/forms/school/sal/enteractivity.asp)

***Evaluation:***

- This policy, plus investment levels, investment terms and types of investments are required to be formally minuted and reviewed by school council regularly.
- This policy will be reviewed as part of the school’s three year review cycle.

<i>This policy was last ratified by School Council in....</i>	2013
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***Principal’s signature:*** \_\_\_\_\_

***School Council President’s signature:*** \_\_\_\_\_

***Date:*** \_\_\_\_\_