1. **PURPOSE**
   1.1 The Outdoor Education Program aims to develop independence, confidence and responsibility in students.
   1.2 The Outdoor Education Program will focus on personal development through interaction with others and the responsible use of the natural environment.
   1.3 The Outdoor Education Program promotes the acquisition of knowledge, values and skills that enhance resourcefulness, leadership, tolerance, co-operation, determination, group bonding and teamwork.
   1.4 The Outdoor Education Program re-enforces all aspects of the school's You Can Do It Program: Resilience, Organisation, Getting Along, Persistence and Confidence.

2. **BROAD GUIDELINES**
   2.1 To continue the overall development of the student by integrating outdoor education into school activities (camps/excursions).
   2.2 To continue the overall development of the student through participation in the school camping program.
   2.3 Unless illness is a factor, there is an expectation that students attend school camp for the entire duration.
   2.4 DEECD guidelines in relation to staffing, safety, supervision, transport and activity, as outlined in the Operations Manual will be followed, including the provision of WWC for volunteers accompanying overnight camps.

   **Criteria for Selecting Parents:**
   - Consideration given to those parents who have not attended a school camp before (school to keep a record of parent attendance for future reference)
   - Adult gender ratios
   - Skills the parent has to offer eg. First Aid, previous Outdoor Education experience
   - Parents should not be selected solely on the basis of their child attending

   2.5 The role of parents on school camp follows similar guidelines as set out in 3.12 on the Excursions / Incursions Policy.

   2.6 The camping program will offer a variety of settings.
   - The four camps attended by the students between Levels 3 and 6 will each provide different types of settings and onsite activities.

   2.7 Staff reserves the right to book new camp sites to link in with integrated topics in any given year.

   2.8 Family finances should not preclude attendance at camp.

3. **PLAN FOR IMPLEMENTATION**
   3.1 Outdoor education will be integrated into curriculum areas where possible.
   3.2 Facets of outdoor education will include Safety, Recreation, Leisure and Self Esteem activities.
   3.3 In terms of implementing broad guideline 2.2, the school will use its discretion in determining whether or not a student should participate in any given school camp activity. The key indicators in this instance would be:
      - Is the proposed activity causing student stress, fear and or anxiety?
      - Is the proposed activity too difficult for the year level/age of the student?

   3.4 Each level (3’s to 6’s) will attend its own camp.
   - Students in Level 6 will participate in a 5 day/4 night camp.
   - Students in Level 5 will participate in a 3 day/2 night camp.
   - Students in Level 4 will participate in a 3 day/2 night camp to be held in Term 4.
   - Students in Level 3 will participate in a 3 day/2 night camp to be held in Term 4.
   - Students in Level 2 will be invited to participate in an overnight sleep-over at the school.
   - Students in Foundation and Level 1 will be invited to participate in a late stay.

4. **ASSESSMENT**
   4.1 Teacher observation will form the basis of the assessment.

5. **EVALUATION** (to be undertaken by staff attending the camp/sleepover/late stay)
   5.1 Effectiveness of program is determined by above staff considering (informally):
      - a) if students display an interest and are stimulated by the adventure activities
      - b) if students have an awareness of the environment and a willingness to protect it
      - c) if students are aware of personal and group safety in the outdoors