



Somers School Camp – Risk Assessment

Activity	SWIMMING
School	Somers School Camp
Supervising Staff	All qualified teaching staff
Program	9 Day Network Program
Year Level	Year 5 & 6
Dates	February 2026 to February 2027
Location(s)	Somers School Camp – Somers Campus – Somers Beach

• **Duty of care - Duty of care obligations require that school personnel take all reasonable steps to protect students from risks likely to cause personal injury that could reasonably have been for-seen.**

Risk Description	Existing Controls	Risk Assessment – with existing controls			
		Effectiveness of existing controls	Risk Consequences	Risk Likelihood	Risk Rating
Describe the risk event, cause/s and consequence/s. For example, <i>Something occurs ... caused by ... leading to ...</i>	Describe any existing policy, procedure, practice or device that acts to minimise the risk				
A drowning occurs caused by un- safe water conditions, inadequate supervision, participants non/beginner swimmers or medical emergency/ Injury leading to death.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The area designated for swimming at Somers School Camp is in Westernport Bay directly opposite the Somers Camp Bridge entrance. The most appropriate staff member (qualifications, knowledge and experience) will be deemed the designated swimming supervisor and will take overall responsibility during the swimming session. A risk assessment of the swimming area by qualified SSC staff will take place before children enter the water. If a safe swimming environment does not exist, then children will not enter the water. The swimming area is defined by two flags placed on the beach and buoy lines in the water. 1 x SSC Staff will be actively supervising on a rescue board in the water, behind the buoy-line. 2 x SSC Staff will be actively supervising in the water with rescue tubes. SSC Staff actively supervising swimmers in the water from the shore line. SSC Staff will be identified by wearing a staff rash vest and must carry a whistle and be actively scanning and observing while children are in the water. All students identified on the Student Tracker as 'Beginner' swimmers will be identified by wearing a yellow rash vest, when in the water. Prior to entering the water children are instructed to be aware of signals indicating when to exit water and to stay within the confined swimming area. Students who have been diagnosed with epilepsy will be individually supervised in the water by nominated staff member. The entire swimming area will be patrolled by at least one member of staff on a rescue craft in the water. A first aid kit and mobile phone will be always carried by at least one member of staff. Students not swimming will be supervised on the beach by Visiting Teachers. 	Satisfactory	Major	Rare	Medium



Somers School Camp – Risk Assessment

Risk Description	Existing Controls	Risk Assessment – with existing controls																											
		Effectiveness of existing controls	Risk Consequences	Risk Likelihood	Risk Rating																								
Describe the risk event, cause/s and consequence/s. For example, <i>Something occurs ... caused by ... leading to ...</i>	Describe any existing policy, procedure, practice or device that acts to minimise the risk																												
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Equipment /Set Up Procedure includes- <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➢ Setting up flags/buoy line ➢ Ensuring risk assessment of swimming area is completed ➢ First aid kit and mobile phone ➢ Identifiable staff vests ➢ Whistle-1 per staff member ➢ Rescue craft 																												
A student becomes sunburnt caused by prolonged exposure to the sun leading to dehydration or illness.	As part of our general sun-smart strategies students and staff will be strongly encouraged to- <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Students wear Broad Brim/Bucket Hats when at the beach • Students use SPF 30 + Broad-Spectrum water-resistant sunscreen • Students wear protective clothing (rash tops, T-Shirts etc) whilst in water • Students encouraged to take water bottle with them to beach. • Staff to monitor students for any signs of distress due to heat. 	Satisfactory	Minor	Rare	Low																								
<u>Supervision-</u> The following table shows the minimum staff-to-student ratios that must be met based on the Adventure Activity Safety Guidelines	<table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse; text-align: center;"> <thead> <tr style="background-color: #00728f; color: white;"> <th colspan="4">Recreational Swimming</th> </tr> <tr style="background-color: #add8e6;"> <th>Staff numbers</th> <th>Total students</th> <th>Student Ratio</th> <th>Staffing</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>2</td> <td>20</td> <td>1 : 10</td> <td>2 x SSC Staff ** (Current Surf Rescue Certificate & Level 2 First Aid – CPR & Defib)</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse; text-align: center;"> <thead> <tr style="background-color: #00728f; color: white;"> <th colspan="4">Beach Play – Not Swimming</th> </tr> <tr style="background-color: #add8e6;"> <th>Staff numbers</th> <th>Total students</th> <th>Student Ratio</th> <th>Staffing</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>1</td> <td>10</td> <td>1 : 20</td> <td>1 x Visiting Teacher</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p style="text-align: center; margin-top: 10px;">** All Supervising Somers School Camp Staff members are fully qualified with Community Surf Rescue Certificate or equivalent (SLSAA)</p>					Recreational Swimming				Staff numbers	Total students	Student Ratio	Staffing	2	20	1 : 10	2 x SSC Staff ** (Current Surf Rescue Certificate & Level 2 First Aid – CPR & Defib)	Beach Play – Not Swimming				Staff numbers	Total students	Student Ratio	Staffing	1	10	1 : 20	1 x Visiting Teacher
Recreational Swimming																													
Staff numbers	Total students	Student Ratio	Staffing																										
2	20	1 : 10	2 x SSC Staff ** (Current Surf Rescue Certificate & Level 2 First Aid – CPR & Defib)																										
Beach Play – Not Swimming																													
Staff numbers	Total students	Student Ratio	Staffing																										
1	10	1 : 20	1 x Visiting Teacher																										