



## EXCURSIONS POLICY

### PURPOSE

To explain to our school community the processes and procedures the Somers campus of Somers School Camp will use when planning and conducting excursions for students including any adventure activities.

### SCOPE

This policy applies to excursions organised by the Somers Campus of Somers School Camp. This policy is intended to complement the Department's policy and guidelines on excursions which all Victorian government schools are required to follow.

For all camps and excursions, including adventure activities, Somers Campus will follow this policy and the Department's [Excursions policy \(including the policy and guidance on adventure activities\)](#).

### POLICY

While in attendance at Somers School Camp students will participate in several offsite activities including beach walks, walks through the adjacent Coolart Wetlands and during Terms One and Four, surfing lessons.

Planning for activities will include risk assessments. Tidal conditions, weather conditions and fire ratings are checked and assessed regularly in the days prior to and on the day of any off-site activities to ensure student and staff safety.

Where the fire danger rating is catastrophic, the school will close and arrangements will be made to take students home. Where the fire danger rating is extreme, activities will be modified and staff will take extra precautions to ensure the wellbeing of all participants.

Evacuation drills for each program are practiced with the students onsite and prior to the commencement of the activity. All supervising staff are regularly trained on fire preparedness and response procedures and offsite evacuation procedures. Bushwalking student supervision ratios of 2 to 20 and 3 for 21-30 as well as surfing student supervision ratios of 2 to 20 (as our beach is classified enclosed waters) are adhered to and we regularly staff beyond this. All permanent staff are first aid and CPR trained as well as anaphylaxis and asthma training. Staff supervising water activities have Surf Rescue qualifications.

### COMMUNICATION

This policy will be communicated to our school community through our school's website and included in staff induction processes and staff training.

This policy should be read in conjunction with the excursions policy and guidelines.



# Somers Outdoor School



## POLICY REVIEW AND APPROVAL

Policy last reviewed	12/08/2024
Approved by	Principal – Mark Warner
Next scheduled review date	August 2027