

St Columba's Catholic School

Education Outside the Classroom Policy

Adopted by the Board of Trustees 2016

Rationale:

Education outside the classroom includes all those activities, which use the world outside the classroom to enrich aspects of the curriculum and to provide further opportunities for learning, personal growth and social development.

Purposes:

1. To enhance the social development of students in relation to other pupils, adults and the community.
2. To increase learners knowledge, understanding and appreciation of the School area, local district and other places.
3. To help students understand and appreciate other cultures, - past and present.
4. To enhance self-esteem in students by developing strengths and abilities not evident in the classroom
5. To develop learners skills in observation, recording, reporting and organisation.
6. To use learning opportunities offered by groups outside the School environment.
7. To foster in students respect and care for natural and man-made features of the environment.
8. To develop skills that will equip students to work confidently and safely in a variety of places and conditions.

Guidelines:

1. When planning an E.O.T.C event, teachers must follow guidelines in the school E.O.T.C planning folder.
2. Our School will use E.O.T.C. to enhance learning in all curriculum areas.
3. A school camp will be offered every second year to Years 5 and 6 and Years 7 and 8 pupils.
4. Daily excursions only for younger students except in special circumstances as approved by the Principal and Board of Trustees.
5. Parents who attend school camp are to be made aware of the risks involved and will accept responsibility for their own safety and actions whilst on camp.
6. Alcohol on the school camps strictly forbidden.
7. Ensure where possible, that students are not excluded from participation in E.O.T.C. programmes because of disabilities or cost.
8. At the discretion of the Principal, a student may be excluded from a school excursion or school camp.
9. For students who require a Teacher Aide or additional support then provision will be made for this in the E.O.T.C. planning.
10. Students who are unable to participate will be provided with alternative learning situations.
11. A lead teacher must complete an orientation visit prior to a camp.
12. Any group leaving the school grounds must have access to a person responsible for First Aid as part of the group.
13. Parents assisting in any activity should be given clear instructions regarding the activities and be made aware of the teacher's expectations of them.

14. All adults transporting children must sign transport forms. Children travelling in a car must wear a seat belt – one student per seat belt. The car and driver must comply with all legal and Land Transport Safety Authority obligations.
15. When travelling on a bus all children should have a seat.
16. All parents staying overnight will be police vetted.
17. Smoking by adults is forbidden in the presence or in view of students.
18. The Principal must approve the adult/student ratio.

Conclusion:

This school is committed to providing E.O.T.C. for all students in various curriculum areas. It is recognised that E.O.T.C. provides learning opportunities not afforded by classroom teachings.

Approved by the Board of Trustees 2016

Chairperson: