OUTDOOR EDUCATION POLICY

Our mission is to “Educate and develop the whole child for life in the Church and the World of today and tomorrow.”
Acknowledgement of Country

We acknowledge that we are working; learning and worshipping on the traditional country of the Kaurna people of the Adelaide Plains. We recognise and respect their cultural heritage, beliefs and relationship with the land. We acknowledge that they are of continuing importance to the Kaurna people living today.

1 Purpose

The purpose of this policy is to articulate the policy position of the St Therese School in relation Outdoor Education as part of our curriculum. “Outdoor Education (OE) is a study subject in schooling that focuses on learning about self, others and the environment.”

2 Scope of Policy

This policy applies to all teaching staff, including Relief Teachers and the Education Support Officers. It also applies to any volunteers involved in the learning process here at St Therese School. This particular policy also extends to contractors providing outdoor education experiences.

3 Policy

St Therese School will ensure that all students are given positive learning opportunities including outdoor education experiences, which can contribute to a student’s education, including the:

- Provision of direct personal contact with nature in ways that promote enjoyment of outdoor activity and nature.
• Provision of opportunities to reflect on healthy alternatives for everyday living and lay vital foundations for sustainability and stewardship into the future.
• Promotion of competence and safety management in the Australian outdoors.
• Enhancement of well-being through guided reflection on involvement in group and individual activities that are challenging and adventurous.
• Developing essential personal and social capabilities such as communication, resilience, self-confidence, leadership, teamwork, goal setting, personal autonomy and initiative.

4 Definitions

Outdoor Education (OE) is a study subject in schooling that focuses on learning about self, others and the environment.

Australian Curriculum - The Australian Curriculum sets consistent national standards to improve learning outcomes for all young Australians. It sets out, through content descriptions and achievement standards, what students should be taught and achieve, as they progress through school. It is the base for future learning, growth and active participation in the Australian community.

Educators – parents and carers, staff and students

5 Responsibility for implementation, monitoring and continuous improvement

Responsibility for implementation, monitoring and review of the policy is vested at the level appropriate to the following roles:

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<th>Teachers</th>
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<td>Principal</td>
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6 Revision Record

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7 Related Documentation, Links and Resources

The following documents, links and resources should be read in conjunction with this policy document.

System Support Material

• Excursions, Camps, Adventure, Physical and Sporting Activities: Procedures for Catholic Schools and Preschools 2005
• Appendices for Catholic Schools and Preschools 2005. (as amended)  Excursions, The Australian Council for Health, Physical Education and Recreation South Australian Branch

The following documents, links and resources may be read in conjunction with this document.

External Agencies

• Outdoor Education in the Australian Curriculum
• South Australian Catholic Primary School Sports Association
• Outdoor Education Australia

In order to ensure contemporary practice our supporting material, where possible will be online.

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1 Outdoor Education Australia
2 The Australian Council for Health, Physical Education and Recreation South Australian Branch Incorporated (ACHPERSA)
3 Outdoor Education Australia
4 www.acara.edu.au/