



Definitions

A *camp* is an activity involving at least one night's accommodation. An *excursion* is usually an activity occurring off campus within normal school hours. A *retreat* can be a one day or more than one day event that pertains to the spiritual and faith development of the students.

Rationale

Camps, excursions and retreats are a valuable and enriching part of the spiritual, educational, pastoral, cultural and sporting programs of Sacred Heart College. They enable students to further their intellectual, social and spiritual development in non-school settings and build upon classroom learning. They introduce students to a variety of experiences and activities which may not normally be encountered at school or in their own normal life experiences.

Aims

- To reinforce, complement and extend learning opportunities beyond the classroom.
- To develop an understanding that learning is not limited to school and that valuable and powerful learning takes place in other contexts and experiences.
- To provide a program of learning beyond the classroom that delivers opportunities for exercising resourcefulness, independence, leadership, judgement, cooperation, tolerance and spiritual reflection.

Implementation

- It is expected that students will participate in programmed camps, excursions and retreats as they are an integral part of the holistic curriculum of the school.
- Each activity will have clearly defined and enunciated rationale and outcomes, appropriate to the spiritual, educational, pastoral, cultural or sporting programs of the school and the rationale of each activity will be conveyed to the parents, students and staff involved.
- All camps, excursions and retreats will be conducted in accord with the SACCS policy on "Excursions, Camps, Adventure, Physical and Sporting Activities".
- Adequate procedures will be in place to ensure the safety and wellbeing of students, staff and volunteers participating in such activities.
- The Principal in consultation with the Executive will approve all camps and retreats. Excursions can be approved by the relevant Head of Campus or delegate.
- All camps, excursions and retreats will be developed and planned sequentially throughout the school and budgeted for at the beginning of the year with detailed and accurate costing.
- All families will be given sufficient time to make payments for individual camps, excursions or retreats where they are not covered by the set fees. These will be minimal.
- No student will be excluded from an activity for which they would normally be eligible, due to excessive cost.
- Appropriate Duty of Care will be attended to, including staffing by properly accredited staff and volunteers, and the requirements of the school's Child Protection Policy.

Evaluation

Evaluation and review of all camps, excursions and retreats will take place following the event.

A copy of the CESA Policy Camps, Excursions, Sporting and Adventure Activities Procedure and Excursions and Camps Guide for Schools (CCI) are available on request.



Policy Title	Camps, Excursion and Retreat Policy
Ratified by Executive and College Council	February 2022
Policy due for review	February 2025