CAMPS AND EXCURSIONS

POLICY

<u>Purpose</u>

To explain to our school community the processes and procedures Ballarat Specialist School will use when planning and conducting camps, excursions and adventure activities for students.

<u>Scope</u>

This policy:

- applies to all camps and excursions organised by Ballarat Specialist School
- applies to adventure activities organised by Ballarat Specialist School regardless of whether or not they take place on or off school grounds
- is intended to complement the Department's policy and guidelines on excursions, camps and adventure activities which all Victorian government schools are required to follow
- does not apply to student workplace learning or intercampus travel.

Definitions

- *Excursions* are activities organised by the school where the students:
 - o are taken out of the school grounds (for example, a camp, day excursion, school sports);
 - undertake adventure activities, regardless of whether or not they occur outside the school grounds;
- *Camps* are excursions involving at least one night's accommodation.
- *Local excursions* are excursions to locations within walking distance of the school and do not involve 'Adventure Activities'.
- Adventure activities are activities that involve a greater than normal risk. Further information and examples of adventure activities are available on the Department's website under Adventure Activities, at the following link: https://www.education.vic.gov.au/school/principals/spag/safety/pages/adventure.aspx
- *Workplace learning activities* such as work experience, and intercampus travel are not considered school excursions.

Implementation

Camps and excursions can provide a valuable educational experience for our students which are complementary to their learning, as they provide access to resources, environments and expertise that may not be available in the classroom.

For all camps and excursions, including adventure activities, our school will follow the Department's School Policy and Advisory Guide: <u>Excursions and Activities</u>. For camps and excursions requiring school council approval, our school will also follow the Department's School Policy and Advisory Guide: <u>Safety</u> <u>Guidelines for Education Outdoors</u>.

Planning process for camps and excursions

All camps and excursions will comply with Department planning requirements.

Part of this planning process includes conducting risk assessments, to ensure that reasonable steps are taken to minimise the risks associated with each proposed camp or excursion. Ballarat Specialist School's risk assessment will include consideration of arrangements for supervision of students and consideration of the risk of bushfire activity in the excursion location. In the event of a Code Red Day being announced,

excursions or camp activities in effected locations will be cancelled or rescheduled. Planning will also cover arrangements for cancelling, recalling or altering the camp or excursion for any other reason.

A number of our students are anaphylactic or have complex medical needs. Our risk management plans will include strategies to minimise risk in these cases.

The Australian Camps Association identifies camps that are DET approved. In the first instance, camp organisers should consider these camps a priority option for our students. https://auscamps.asn.au/camps-activities/search-camps?filter_state%5B%5D=VIC&sort=name_asc

Ballarat Specialist School is committed to ensuring students are provided with inclusive camps and excursions programs and will work with families during the planning stage, as needed, to support all students' attendance and participation in camp and excursion activities.

In cases where a camp or excursion involves a particular class or year level group, the Organising Teacher will ensure that there is an alternative educational program available and appropriate supervision for those students not attending the camp or excursion.

In cases where a camp or an excursion exceeds the distance of 100km round trip, the Organising Teacher is required to source an external bus provider and driver through Ballarat Specialist School's internal process. The Organising Teacher is requested to obtain a written travel quote before approval.

Please see attached samples of Ballarat Specialist School's documentation (Appendices A - E).

Supervision

Ballarat Specialist School follows the Department's guidelines in relation to supervision of students during excursions and camps with a minimum of two staff. Ballarat Specialist School will require additional staffing to support our students and will exceed the recommended DET guidelines. <u>https://www.education.vic.gov.au/school/principals/spag/safety/Pages/staffing.aspx</u>

All excursion staff (including parent volunteers) will be familiar with supervision requirements and the specific procedures for dealing with emergencies on each camp and excursion.

All school staff will be aware that they retain overall responsibility for the supervision and care of students throughout all camps and excursions (including adventure activities), regardless of whether or not external providers are managing the activity.

Parent volunteers

Parents may be invited to assist with camps and excursions. School staff will notify parents/carers of any costs associated with attending. School staff are in charge of camps and excursions and parent/carer volunteers are expected to follow teachers' instructions. When deciding which parents/carers will attend, the Organising Teacher will take into account: any valuable skills the parents/carers have to offer (e.g. first aid etc.) and the individual needs of particular students.

Volunteer and external provider checks

Ballarat Specialist School requires all parent or carer camp or excursion volunteers and all external providers working directly with our students to have a current Working with Children Check card.

Parent/carer consent

For all camps and excursions, Ballarat Specialist School will provide parents/carers with a specific consent form outlining the details of the proposed activity. Ballarat Specialist School informs parents about school

camps and excursions by placing a note in student bags, placing an announcement on Seesaw and asking parents/carers to return the part of the note that asks for parents/carers signature confirming they consent to their child's participation. Parents/carers are encouraged to contact the school to discuss any questions or concerns that they or their child may have with a proposed camp or excursion.

For local excursions, Ballarat Specialist School will provide advance notice to parents/carers of an upcoming local excursion by placing a note in student bags, placing an announcement on Seesaw and asking parents/carers to return the part of the note that asks for parents/carers signature confirming they consent to their child's participation. For local excursions that occur on a recurring basis (for example weekly outings to the local oval for sports lessons), Ballarat Specialist School will notify parents once only prior to the commencement of the recurring event.

Cost of camps and excursions, refunds and support

At Ballarat Specialist School, the cost of all camps and excursions are included in our parent payment contributions that are to be paid by parents/carers at the start of each school year, unless alternative arrangements have been agreed to by the Principal prior. All families will be given sufficient time to make payments for all activities. These fees are highlighted in our *Parent Payment Policy*.

Ballarat Specialist School will make all efforts to ensure that students are not excluded for financial reasons. Families experiencing financial difficulty are invited to discuss alternative payment arrangements with the Business Manager/Principal. The Business Manager/Principal can also discuss family eligibility for the Department's Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund (CSEF), which provides payments for eligible students to attend school activities, including camps and excursions. Applications for the CSEF are open to families holding a valid means-tested concession card or temporary foster parents and are facilitated by the school. Further information about the CSEF and the application form are available at <u>Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund</u>.

Student health

Parents and carers need to ensure the school has up-to-date student health information prior to camps and excursions. A member of staff will be appointed with responsibility for the health needs of the students for each camp/excursion. Teachers will administer any medication provided according to our *Medication* policy and the student's signed *Medication Authority Form*. To meet the school's obligations relating to safety, a first aid kit, mobile phone, individual medication plans (Asthma / Anaphylaxis) will be taken by teachers on all camps and excursions.

It is the responsibility of parents and carers to ensure their child/children are in good health when attending excursions and camps. If a student becomes ill during a camp and is not able to continue at camp it is the parent/carer's responsibility to collect them and cover any associated costs. If the Principal approves a student joining a camp late, transport to the camp is the parent/carer's responsibility.

Behaviour expectations

Students participating in camps and excursions are required to co-operate and display appropriate behaviour to ensure the camp or excursion is a safe, positive and educational experience for all students involved. Teachers are required to take into consideration and plan appropriately for students with Individual Behaviour Plans (IBP's) attending camps/excursions.

Parents/carers will be notified if their child is in danger of losing the privilege to participate in an excursion or camp due to behaviour that does not meet the standards of behaviour set out in the school's *Student Wellbeing and Engagement Policy* and *Bullying Prevention Policy*. The decision to exclude a student will be made by the Principal or Assistant Principal, in consultation with the Organising Teacher. Both the parent/carer and the student will be informed of this decision prior to the camp or excursion.

If on a camp or excursion the Teacher in Charge considers an individual student's behaviour does not meet required standards, then the Principal or their nominee may determine that a student should return home during the camp or excursion. In these circumstances the parent/carer is responsible for the collection of the student and any costs associated with this.

Electronic Devices

Students will be permitted to bring electronic devices (such as iPads, iPods, mobile phones) but these may only be used during times set by the Teacher in Charge. Students are responsible for the care of any personal electronic device brought to a camp or excursions and the school will not be responsible for lost or damaged devices as set out in the school's *Mobile Phone Student Use Policy*.

Food

Students are not permitted to bring their own supply of food items to camps and excursions unless the item is medically indicated and discussed with the Organising Teacher, or included as an item on the clothing and equipment list for that camp or excursion.

Accident and Ambulance Cover

Ballarat Specialist School has obtained student accident insurance cover and ambulance cover, at a cost of \$6.60 per student. This ensures students are covered both at school and on excursions.

Links and Appendices:

This policy should be read in conjunction with the following Department polices and guidelines:

- School Policy and Advisory Guide:
 - o <u>Excursions and Activities</u>
 - o <u>Emergency and Risk Management</u>
- <u>Safety Guidelines for Education Outdoors</u>
- Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund.
- <u>Code Red Days</u>

Appendices connected with this policy are:

- Appendix A: Excursion & Incursion Approval Form (Not Requiring School Council Approval)
- Appendix B: Risk Assessment Template
- Appendix C: Approval Proforma for all Excursions and Activities Requiring School Council Approval
- Appendix D: Normal School Hours Parent Excursion Consent
- Appendix E: Parent Excursion Consent School Council Approval.

Evaluation:

This policy will be reviewed every three years.

This policy was last ratified by School Council in....

March 2020



Appendix A - Excursion & Incursion Approval Form (Not Requiring School Council Approval)

EXCURSION & Incursion Approval Form (Not Requiring School Council Approval)

Activity Detai	5									
Activity Name										
Location/Venue										
Start Date		End Date (If recurring)								
Departure Time		Return Time								
Class/es		No. of Students								
Teacher/s										
Staff Attending										
Staff Contacts										
Type of activity	🖵 Day Trip									
	Incursion									
	Community Access									
	Event / Other									
-	cur on a regular basis? 🛛 🗆]Yes, □No								
Activity Precaution	Activity Precautions (If any)									
General activity de	scription and educational re	elevance (attach itinerary and r	nap as relevant)							
Transport										
Venue										
Arrangements for s	students not attending:									
Additional Staff in !	Support (if any, including vo	lunteers)								
Activity Costin	וסג									
Venue Charge	162									
Transportation Cos	ts									
Food Costs										
	200 per Assistant, \$400 per 0	דסי								
Other Costs (Pleas		asiy								
Other Costs (Pleas	-									
Equipment Hire (as	-									
Total cost	rappicaorey									
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Please complete the Planning Checklist on the following page.

Teacher Reminders Checklist	
Discuss this activity with your leading teacher	
Please do not send out parental approval forms until Roger has reviewed them	
Provide at least 3 weeks' notice on the Student Activity Locator	
Work out costings with Business Manager	
Complete Purchase Order/s	
If you are driving more than 100 kilometers you need to book a driver	
Book an appropriate bus/buses with Jo De Navi	
Complete all documentation	
leading teacher signs this form	
All forms to Roger	
Send/receive parental approval form after Roger has approved them	
Ensure appropriate first aid and emergency management materials for the event	
Ensure you have parent permissions and medical forms with you on the trip / activity	
Following the event, return permission and medical forms to the office for 7 year retention	
Adventure Activities require School Council approval. Please do not include them on	
Community Access activities	

Excursion Approval:

Approver Name: _____

Date: _____

BALLARAT SPECIALIST SCHOOL EXCURSION /CAMP RISK ASSESSMENT DOCUMENTATION

School: Ballarat Specialist School

Supervising teachers/staff: Program/Excursion:

Dates

Year Level (It relevant): Location(s)

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Add more rows as required. This is one way of documenting the risk management process and does not preclude other approaches. The list of risks listed here is not exhaustive and should be adapted to suit the circumstances of your excursion / camp

Appendix C – Approval Proforma for Activities Requiring School Council Approval

FROM & STAT

Approval Proforma for all Excursions and Activities Requiring School Council Approval

Department of Education and Early Childhood Development

The proforma details minimum requirements for council approval. It must be submitted to the principal for school council approval prior to the excutsion.

All information on this proforma is required. Add attachments if necessary.

School councils are responsible for approving:

- byennight excussions
- camps
- interstate/overseas visits
- excursions requiring sea or air travel
- excursions involving weekends or vacaoons
- adventure activities.

Complete the Student Activity Locator online form three weeks prior to the excursion. Sections with an * have exclanatory notes included at the end of this document.

Ensure you have the most current version of this template Download from the Safety Guidelines for Education Outdoors Website at: http://www.education.vic.gov.au/school/principals/health/Pagrs/outdoor.aspx

PROGRAM NAME, YEAR, LOCATION, DATE(8), TEACHER-IN-CHARGE

Name of program: 📃

Year level(c):

Location(s):

* Date(s):

100.0

Name of teacher-in-oharge

* EDUCATIONAL PURPOSE

PROGRAM DETAILS

	and a second		
Overnight accommod	ation		
Type of accommodation			
Accordited residential ca	nicsiles 🛛 Tents(comping)	Citrior	
Physical (ocation, For exam	ale, name, appress, or map and grid	reference.	
Contact phone number(s): - Residential campsite († a) - Staff mobiles - Other	p(ksib/u)		

Adventure activities		
Tick the adventure activities w	al have been planned to occur during the	e program:
Absering Canochigkdyaking - low Cycling Chionteoring Saling Snow activities Water sking	Base camping Challenge roues course - high Horse riding SCUBA diving Surbing Vindsurfing Windsurfing	Bushwaking Challenge ropes tourse Indoor rock climbing Rock climbing Snorkeling Swimming Cotter
The conduct of each activity w	I comply with the requirements cutlined	In the Salaty Guidelines for that activity
man have been been been been been been		and the state
Staff providing instruction activ	tues have read the intervent safety (pride	ainas 🖬 YES
	and an a strength of the second	Concerns of the second
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	Budget	
NICOME	EXPENDITURE	_
Studant Fees	Transport	
Other Income:	Food	
	Accommode/full	
	Staffing	
	Equipment	
	Other experiance:	
Total Income:	Total expanditure	

P(Simple) Veterm (DEECU) 2016

Gentles Wetter



Victoria Early Children Development

EXPLANATORY NOTES

Dates

Consider how the time of year may impact on the wider school program of the effect of seasonal weather conditions.

Educational purpose and program outline

Whatever you hope the students will learn from the program is its educational purpose. The program overview should give school council a basic understanding of how the program aims to achieve the educational purpose.

For example: A three-day residential camp including bushwaiking and orienteering to encourage an understanding of the natural environment: develop team working ability: and, introduce map reading and navigational skills in an experiential way.

The supervision strategy should include the nature and level of supervision provided throughout the excursion or activity. You must consider all programmed and hon-programmed beneds.

Each different location in must be detailed, including the dates at each location. This will have an impact on transport requirements and the emergency response needs of the program.

Contact land managers to determine # permit or access requirements apply for activities that are conducted on public land or in state mational parks.

Joint excursions with other schools must be approved by each school council. Each school must submit an online notification to the Emergency Management and Sectarity Branch.

Overnight secommodation

This includes all forms of overnight accommodation.

Residential camping is at sites with permanent facilities like domitories; kitchen, showers, toilets, phones and recreation options.

Residential campsites operated or used by Victorian government schools must be accredited with a Department of Education and Early Childhood Development recognised accreditation provider. Refer to the School Policy and Advesory Guide. Venue Selection for current accreditation providers.

When using venues that do not require accreditation such as caravan parks, motels/hotels or ski lodges, schools may wish to refer to the accreditation criteria of a recognised accreditation, providet when developing their risk management plan.

Provide details of all accommodation being used with your submission to school cauncil.

Transport

Internal transport is provided by school-owned or private, staff-owned vehicles. External transport is transport provided by contractors, parents or other external providets.

The parent consent form should include a statement advising parents if a private vehicle is used as part of the emergency management plan for a camp or excursion.

If a leaches or staff member will be driving students. The program should allow them adequate rest time prior to driving, consistent with the advice on the transport page of the Safety Guidelines.

Give pareful consideration to securing equipment during transportation, including equipment on trailers, root racks and inside vehicles.

Supervising staff

A Working with Children Check is required for staff members who will supervise students and who are not registered teachers. This does not apply to parent volunteers whose child is participating in the activity/excursion.

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Great Internet M. Education Anni-Early Entrances Development

BALLARAT SPECIALIST SCHOOL EXCURSION /CAMP RISK ASSESSMENT DOCUMENTATION



Supervising teachers/staff:

School: Ballarat Specialist School

Program/Excursion: Dates:

Year Level (If relevant): Location(s):

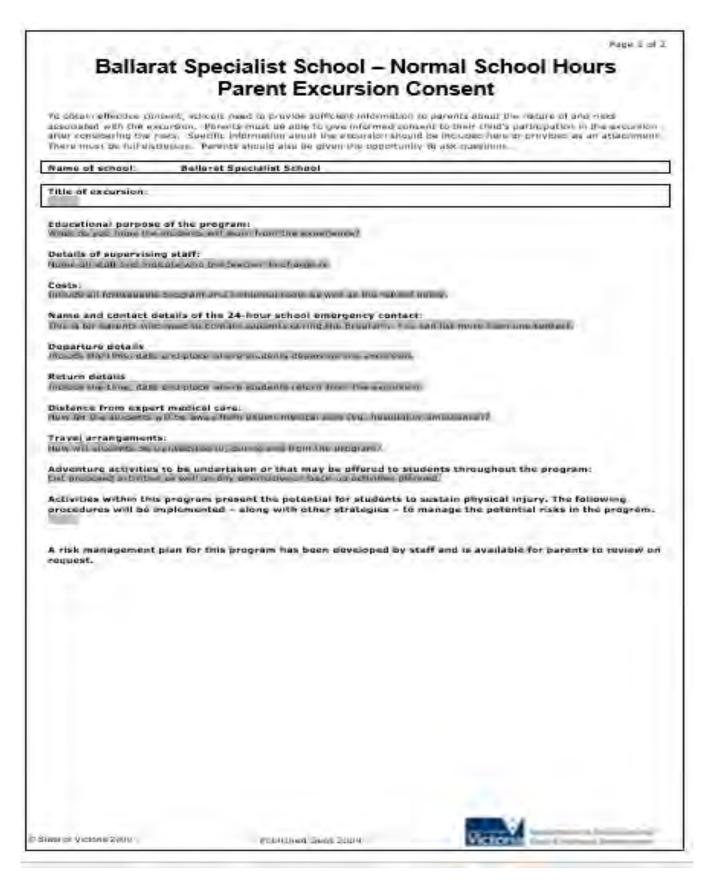
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Risk Title & Description	Risk Causes & Consequences	Existing Controls	Current Ri	sk Assessment – (with existing co	ntrois	Treatment	Target Risk As	sessment – afte	er treatments
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Risk Title Poor Student Behaviour Risk short description A student general behaviour fails below the School's expectations.	Correst Executed the standard's capacity to cape Toportor manifoldin Unreaduling Expectations of standard Consequences Risk of raisery Risk of raisers Discrete in sectivity	Separate from group to calm Provide 1.1 support where possible Una BP where a splitcaffe Return student to school with staff member II bankniss penitis Cancel activity in estimate case Review angrees on completion	Effective	Woderate	Bare	Low		Severa Major Moderata Misor Insignificant	Almost certain Likely Possible Unikely Bare	Extreme High Medium Low

Risk Title & Description	Risk Causes & Consequences	Existing Controls	Current Ri	sk Assessment –	with existing co	ntrols	Treatment	Target Risk As	sessment – afte	er treatments
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Alak Tale Transport Alak short description Transport utilised down suct reset the Cogarized at the constant of the constant Cogarized at the constant of the c	Cause Inspropriate transport option Uterakala transport of driver Different or appropriately qualited Verklick one imposited prior to exacular Correspondent Difference Physical or psychological lybory Libgailan, Aaterne coast ruling Indexember / bit time Verklick accident Verklick accident	The backer will ensure that activity transport meets the requirements builtoot in the School Putter and Astrong Guide Exercise Surgers - Transport Burevise Juggers - Transport Provided / required it in to be near / used	Acceptable	Major	Bare	Medium		Savara Major Moderata Minor Imignificant	Almost certain Likely Possible Unlikely Bare	Extreme High Medium Low
Rink Tabe Communication Rink short description Failume to develop and follow communications plan	Causes Lack of communication plan hadroquate skills/ training / procedures Lack of Inedembig Consequences Utuable to Inform key personnel is enregency skattlen eg. policy, ambulance, principal, parents Physical or psychological kyury esacerbailed	Develop a communication play/desistey that complements advice in the transive approach the transive approach the transive approach the transition of the transive approach the transition of the transition of the communication plan before departained the communication plan before departained the communication default advice and advice transition default advice the transition advice the transition advice the transition advice transition advice transition advice the transition	Acceptable	Maderate	llare	Los		Severn Major Moderate Misor Insignificant	Almost certain Litely Possible UniRely Race	Estimate High Medikan Law

Risk Title & Description	Risk Causes & Consequences	Existing Controls	Current Risk Assessment – with existing controls			Treatment	Target Risk Assessment – after treatments			
Define the risk event including a tisk title and a short description What can go secong?	Describe the risk event cacoe/s and correspondence/s. What weakt access it is go eveng? (caased) What weakt score it is go eveng? (correspondence)	Describe any existing policy, procedure, practice or device that acts to minimize the risk Whot is <i>in places near with an extraction</i> the distributed of this risk eccurring or its impact if it also accur?	Effectiveness of existing controls How effective are the current controls we have to piece? (chaose one)	Connect Risk Connequence How big would the impact of this risk be if it accurred? (choose ane)	Current Risk Likelihood Maw Ukely In This risk to occur? (choose a ce)	Current Risk Rating What is the current risk level based as the risk rating matrix?	Describe the actions to be undertaken for those risks requiring further treatments. What will be done? What will be toppen?	Target Bisk Consequence (choose are)	Target Risk Likelihood (choose ase)	Target Risk Rating What is the target risk level based on the risk rating matrix?
Risk Title Risk short description	Causes • Consequences •		ineffective Neech improvement Acceptable Effective	Severe Major Moderate Minor Insignificant	Almost certain Likely Possible Unlikely Bare	Extreme High Medium Low		Severe Major Woderate Minor Insignificant	Almost certain Likely Possible Unikely Rare	Estreme High Medium Low
Risk Title Risk short description	Causes • Consequences •		Ineffective Needs in provement Acceptable Effective	Severe Major Moderate Minor Insignificant	Almost certain Likely Possible Unitkely Bare	Extreme High Medium Low		Severe Major Moderate Minor Insignificant	Almost certain Likely Possible Unlikely Bare	Estreme High Mediam Low
Risk Thie Risk short description	Causas • Consequences •		Ineffective Needs in provement Acceptable Effective	Severe Major Moderate Misor Imigoificant	Almost certain Likely Possible Unlikely Bare	Extreme High Medium Low		Severe Major Moderate Minor Irnigoificant	Almost certain Likely Possible Unlikely Bare	Estreme High Medium Low

Add mare rows as required. This is one way of documenting the risk management process and does not preclude other approaches. The list of risks listed here is not exhaustive and should be adapted to suit the circumstances of your excursion / camp



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Student behaviour-

If understand that in the event of my criticle mispehaviow or beneyiger that process a denser to timeel/mensel or ethnic, during the biscurston, revisite may be wert home. I further understand that in such cristimaterizes, I will be informed and that any dotts associated with mome return will be my responsibility.

Student Illness

"I understand that in the event excurate staff determine it is receivery for my child to be sent nome samp case to illegraany part associated with highler return will be my responsibility."

ICT/Photograph consent

If agree in my thild using the internet and corruption retwork in extending with the sume internet etagent over agreement that applies at lifely correct school." (Strike cut if you do not connect)

"I also consent to my citils being printegraphed and/or visual images of my citils being taken during activities by the action, for use in the school's publications, acrossl's website or for publicitly purposes without acknowledgment and without deing unrided to any remaineration or compensation." [Strike cut if you do not compent)

Concellations of Alterations

's understand that the principal may need to cancel or other excursion arrangements of short-hotice, due to circomstances beyond the control of the activol, and while the principal will try to minimise disconservance or timostal issues to parents, these may be supported attend.

Consent for emergency transportation

"In the event of an emergency Licensent to my child being transported in a privately owned vehicle officer by a memory of the supervisory staff listed above."

Student accident insurance

The Department of Education does not provide student actions dover. Parents may wish to obtain student account insurance sover from a commercial insurer, depending on their health insurance arrangements and any other personal considerations.

Parent consent

I have read all of the above information provided by the school in relation to the lingert memory mame have , including any attached material.

I give permission for my daughter/spin_

(full hame) to strend.

Parent/guardian:			(rui) name)	
		_	(signature)	, (dete)
In case of emergency I can	be contacted on:			
-		OR:		
		-		
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Student behaviour.

'I understand that in the event of my child's misbehaviour or benaviour that proves a denoer to inimael/rense/ or some during the excursion, he/me may be serp home. I further understand that in such thoursetances I will be informed and that any costs associated with he/mer reliem will be my responsibility."

Student Illness

"> understand that in the event excursion staff determine it is necessary for my child to be sont home early due to linear, any cost associated with higher return will be my responsibility."

ICT/Photograph consent

"> agrees to my child, using the internet and computer network in accordance with the same internet student users agreement that applies at their success school. [[Strike out if you do not canvent]

If also consent to my cills here protographed and/or visual (masses of my cills being taken during advined by the action) for use in the consert publications, across's website or for busicity purposes without acknowledgment and without series unlitled to ach remaineration to compensation. (Strike cut if you do not convent)

Concellations or Alterations

'I understand this the private may need to cancer or alter excertain and represents as short-rickles, the to thomstances beyond the control of the athlosi, and while the principal will by its emirinise teconventence or invention (serve to parents, these may be prevoldable.'

Consent for emergency transportation

"In the second of an emergency Licensent to my child being transported in a privately densed yellicle dricen by a memory of ." The supervisery staff listed above."

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Parent consent

I have read all of the above information provided by the school in relation to the linkert pregram name have , including any attached material.

I give permission for my daughter/son_____

Patient/guardiant

______(ful) indense)

(signature) (deta)

(full name) to attend.

ar 16

Station & Constitution of Street

In case of emergency I can be contacted on:

Note: Parents should also complete the "Confidential medical information for school council approved school excursions".

OR:

Planan of Victoria 2003

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