

“Serve Him in Others”

## ST JOSEPH’S COLLEGE

### ***CAMP and RETREAT POLICY***

#### **Policy Statement:**

College camps and retreats are an integral part of life at St Joseph’s College. Their length, location, program and organisation will be appropriate to the developmental level of the group. The camps and retreats will have clearly stated and published aims and objectives. Camps and retreats are integral to the Personal Development Program in the College, therefore attendance is essential.

The Mission Statement directs focus towards faith education and personal development. Recognising the need for community development time and the space and atmosphere constraints of the classroom, it becomes necessary to conduct activities at venues better suited for spiritual endeavours or physical activity (as appropriate).

#### **Gospel Values linked to this Policy:**

Love, care, faith, community, service, truth, learning, respect, reverence, freedom, healing, witness, commitment, openness, trust, joy and a sense of wonder.

Camps and retreats foster the holistic development of young people.

The **curricular** relevance of subject-related camps will be related to the teaching/learning for the appropriate year level.

The participants will be given opportunities:

- To share, bond with and appreciate each other’s uniqueness.
- To gain a greater insight into the talents and skills of themselves and others;

The aims and objectives of planned camps and retreats will be communicated to students and parents.

November 2012

## Guidelines to enact the Policy:

An overview of the Retreat and Camp Program which helps this policy to be implemented currently is:

Year Level	Activity	Time	Length
Year 8	Orientation Day	Term 1	1 day
	Retreat Day	Term 2	1 day
Year 9	Outdoor Education Camp	Term 3 Activities Week	4 days
	Retreat Day	Term 3	1 day
	Personal Development	Term 2	1 day
Year 10	Retreat Day	Term 3 Activities Week	1 day
Year 11	Leadership Camp	Term 4	3 days
Year 12	Retreat	Term 3 Activities Week	4 days
	Student Elected Leaders	Term 1	Overnight
	Subject specific camps (eg Biology, Multi-strand, Music)	as needed	as appropriate

Given the nature of the activities, a coordinator at each year level will be designated the responsibility for the conduct of the activities, including –

- Organising a team
- Notifying parents/required paperwork
- Arranging venues, transport etc.
- Supervision/risk management

## Procedures linked to this Policy:

1. Parents will be informed as to the objectives of the camp or retreat.
2. Parents will be given adequate notice of time and any cost of camp or retreat.
3. Teachers and facilitators will prepare the program for the camp or retreat.
4. Teacher and site expectations of student behaviour will be clearly stated to the students.
5. Parents need to be made aware of the consequences of misbehaviour on camp or retreat; e.g. collecting students at own expense if student is requested to leave camp or retreat because of behaviour/choices.
6. Medical information sheets **MUST** be completed and returned to the College before a student can be permitted to go on camp or retreat.
7. When a student cannot attend because of extenuating circumstances, parents must discuss the matter with the College Principal. Supervision of such students will be the responsibility of the parent for the duration of the camp or retreat.