

CAMPS AND TOURS POLICY

POLICY STATEMENT

St James' Anglican School believes that camps and tours form an integral part of our curriculum and provide experiences and activities central to students' academic and personal development.

A risk analysis is conducted for every camp and tour. Potential risks are identified and then mitigated during the process of planning for the camp/tour, with close adherence to school policies.

PURPOSE

Experiential learning is well founded in education and provides unique opportunities which endeavour to enhance learning outcomes across all subject areas for our students. Through camps and tours, students are given the opportunity to experience a wide range of activities beyond the usual school settings. Students are able to interact with their teachers and peers in a setting vastly different from the classroom. With these day-to-day barriers broken, there is great potential for positive interaction at a much higher level.

CAMP/TOUR OVERVIEW

Compulsory camps/tours are a pivotal component of pastoral care and often are central to the academic curriculum. As such, each sub-school provides **compulsory camps** giving the same opportunities to every student.

JUNIOR SCHOOL CAMPS - current locations (subject to change)

- Year 2 - 2 days/ 1 night sleepover at St James' - ELC Building.
- Year 3 - 2 days/ 1 night sleepover at Kerem Adventure Camp - Bullsbrook.
- Year 4 - 3 days/ 2 nights at Springhill's Farm - Williams.
- Year 5 - 3 days/ 2 nights at Swan Valley Adventure Centre camp - Swan Valley.
- Year 6 - 4 days/ 3 nights Rottnest Camp - Rottnest Island.

The camp program presents a unique opportunity for the consolidation of the strong connections, which exist in the school, particularly through the participation of the large number of Junior School parents who assist with the camps.

Year 2 Camp will be a sleepover in the ELC collaborative area. The focus is only on giving the students a first experience of being away from home.

Year 3 Sleepover at AQWA aims to develop the Year 2 experience by taking the students off campus for their sleepover.

Year 4 Camp will be a 2-night camp at Kerem Camp Centre in the Swan Valley. This will be aimed at developing independence and confidence.

Camps in Years 5 and 6 aim to increase the understanding students have of a range of concepts, processes, and issues through their immersion in enriching life experiences outside the classroom. Camps are often the single most memorable occurrence in a student's Junior School years.

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SENIOR SCHOOL CAMPS/TOURS - current locations (subject to change)

- Year 7 - 3 days/ 2 nights Orientation Camp to Swan Valley Adventure Centre - Swan Valley.
- Year 8 - 3 days/ 2 nights Yanchep National Park - camping and hiking style.
- Year 9 - 4 days/3 nights Year 9 Outdoor Education to Boya Quarry, Ern Halliday and Rottnest Island-camping style with activities focus.
- Year 10 - 5 days/ 4 nights Outdoor Education Leadership Expedition in Margaret River-total expedition camping and hiking style camp.
- Year 12 - 2 days/ 1 nights Study Retreat Yanchep-dormitory style.

The Senior School Camp Program is designed to build on the core values established in the Junior School Program. Each camp will focus on different aspects of the five school values in order to provide unique opportunities for the development of our students.

Some of these camps are covered within the resource levy, but others do attract an additional cost. These costs vary from year to year depending on the activities, but the camps are a compulsory part of our curriculum and social development.

Year 7

Swan Valley Adventure Centre in the Swan Valley - A teambuilding camp scattered with activities.

The focus of the camp is orientation and developing new friendships on entry to the Senior School.

The program of activities is designed to allow students to get to know their peers and teachers in an informal environment.

Year 8

Yanchep National Park - Preliminary hiking and survival skills.

This camp challenges the students and pushes them out of their collective comfort zones through a range of adventure activities, which are both educational and fun. The beauty and diversity of the Yanchep region are the perfect settings for a camp that promotes learning, sharing, teamwork, and reflection.

Year 9

Boya Quarry, Ern Halliday and Rottnest Island - A camp in preparation for the advanced skill required on the Year 10 expedition.

Students will complete rock climbing and abseiling in the Perth hills on day one. This will be followed an overnight stay at Ern Halliday campsite at Hillarys. On day two students explore the local coastline through snorkelling and stand-up paddle boarding, before heading to Rottnest Island for further adventure activities. The students cook their camp meals in small teams before spending each night in tents.

Year 10

Margaret River Outdoor Leadership Expedition - A leadership and adventure expedition.

The Year 10 Outdoor Education Course is a sequential program building skills throughout the year, with the culmination being a final expedition in late in the year. This compulsory camp for all Year 10 students is a culmination of our experiential learning program.

The camp is aimed at developing self - esteem, independence, resilience and decision-making. This camp will be an integral part of our leadership and resilience program.

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Year 12 Retreat

Yanchep Lodge - A camp to prepare students for Year 12.

Every Year 12 student has the opportunity to start the School year with a Study Retreat where the focus is on preparing for the academic rigour of Year 12. Students can gain important coping strategies and study skills. With their newly-acquired skills they gain the confidence, motivation and interpersonal strategies required to cope with a challenging year.

The academic outcomes are:

- enhance memory retention
- motivate students to seek more knowledge
- plan study programs.

The personal student outcomes are:

- improve self-esteem and self-awareness
- set personal goals
- manage mental and physical health.

The focus is on learning how to have the right balance between academia and social activities. Students are challenged to be more accountable for the choices that are made in their learning journey.

Voluntary Tours may be added or removed depending on staff and/or need/demand. Any potential voluntary tours will be carefully considered with regard to costs, relevance and risk.

Ski Trip

The Ski Trip to Mount Hotham in Victoria has been paused due to the pandemic and has not yet resumed. This trip is focused on giving students the opportunity to travel on a combined sporting and cultural tour.

Although this trip is open to all other year groups in the Senior School, the majority of participants will come from Year 11.

This trip allows students to experience the thrill of skiing and living in the alpine environment. They need to live, cooperate and share responsibility for their own safety and that of their peers. They face physical exhaustion daily, which needs to be balanced with the necessity to live and cooperate in close proximity with other students.

At the conclusion of the skiing part of the trip, students experience the culture of Melbourne, by visiting the Queen Victoria Markets, the central shopping precinct, attending an AFL game at the MCG, and visiting the joys of Lygon Street at night.

Expected Outcomes:

- Improved self-confidence through the mastery of a new skill in an alpine environment.
- Improved awareness of the safety of self and others through an appreciation of the Alpine Responsibility Code.
- Resilience in the face of physical and emotional exhaustion.
- A sense of the daily life of a large group of people traveling together.

The tour is at additional cost to parents.

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Japan Tour

This optional tour is scheduled to run every two to three years. It has a cultural immersion focus. The students travel around Tokyo, Kyoto, Osaka, Hiroshima and the tour may include skiing when appropriate. **This tour is at additional cost to parents.**

Canberra Tour

Year 8/9/10 students are offered an optional tour to Canberra and Sydney. The tour takes students on a historical tour of the capital city. The sidelight tour through Sydney is aimed at broadening the program and developing student knowledge. **The tour is at additional cost to parents.**

School fees need to be up to date before applying for any of the voluntary tours.

Other camps and tours may become available as the School develops.

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POLICY VERSION CONTROL

Version	Date	Summary of Changes
1	May - 2021	Policy reviewed and updated with minor changes
2	Mar - 2023	Policy reviewed and updated with minor changes. Compulsory and voluntary camps/tours are determined. New policy format to include 'policy version control' table. Policy number changed from SJAS – 2.9 – SJAS 2.10 Review date amended