

## SOMERVILLE INTERMEDIATE SCHOOL POLICY ON EDUCATION OUTSIDE THE CLASSROOM

### RATIONALE:

Children's learning is enhanced by "education outside the classroom" which encompasses those activities that use the outdoors to enrich all aspects of the curriculum and also provide further opportunities for learning, personal growth and social development.

*Charter Reference:* Curriculum Goal

*Legislative Reference:* NAG 5

*Related Policies:* M35 School Trips

### PURPOSES:

1. To help in the social development of children by aiding the understanding of oneself in relation to other students, adults and the community.
2. To provide opportunities for the involvement of all the senses in an awareness of the natural environment and thus to value conservation.
3. To enrich classroom learning by providing experiential perspectives.
4. To extend children's creativity and aesthetic appreciation by focussing on the outdoors.
5. To help children understand and appreciate other cultures - past and present.
6. To introduce children to the challenges and dangers of the environment and the skills for coping with them.
7. To enhance self esteem in children by developing strengths and abilities not evident in the classroom.
8. To provide further opportunities for the community to participate in the education of young people.

### GUIDELINES:

1. The school will have an overall plan/policy that allows for sequential development.
2. Appropriate safety procedures must be observed and approved by the principal.
3. A risk management planning matrix will be completed prior to all excursions outside the school, by the teacher in charge.
4. Teachers and leaders should have appropriate leadership and management skills, and experience, and ongoing professional development.
5. EOTC excursions should be linked to classroom programmes.
6. Teachers expertise and willingness is a fundamental issue in determining whether camps

will take place.

7. Consideration should be given to the financial and time demands placed on parents by excursions.
8. Approval for overnight camps will be given by the Board of Trustees prior to firm commitments being undertaken and provided a large majority of parental permission is gained (80% as a guide) from the class/es involved.
9. Trips outside the greater Auckland area and/or outside school hours will also require prior Board approval.

DATE:	Written 17/9/97	Adopted 24/9/98	Latest Amendment 15/10/02	Readopted 19/5/05
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