

Tallong Outdoor Education Programs The Teacher's Role and Responsibility

The teacher who accompanies the outdoor education group on programs plays an important role in the overall management and success of the student experience. Clarifying in advance the expectations of visiting teachers results in an agreed understanding of “who does what” whilst on camp.

The outdoor education staff member (OES) is qualified to lead the student group, while depending on the support of the accompanying teacher who acts as a facilitator during camp. During activities, Tallong Outdoor Education Staff will be primarily responsible for the general safety and first aid of the group. School staff play a key role in the formulation of a positive group dynamic. They need to ensure that each student has their pastoral needs addressed.

The best working relationships occur when the OES and teacher introduce each other as soon as possible on camp and have a common shared understanding of each other's role and responsibility. Naturally the teacher's participation in activities is optional, however we expect that all teachers remain engaged for the entirety of the program.

The teacher is asked to:

- ✓ Be present with the group at all times during the program, unless the OES has agreed for the teacher to be elsewhere
- ✓ Model the standard of expected behaviour, especially in relation to mobile phone use
- ✓ Support the OES's instructions as given to the group
- ✓ Assist where asked by the OES (eg fitting helmets for students) – teachers will only be asked to do tasks within their area of knowledge or ability
- ✓ Articulate connections where they become evident between what the students are doing and the school's overall values, or learning outcomes that those students might be aiming for in the classroom situation
- ✓ Attend to any disciplinary matters that the OES feels unequipped to handle, and escalate matters if necessary to the Head Teacher who is on camp
- ✓ Provide pastoral care to the students in the group
- ✓ Assist during supervision at meal times
- ✓ Be responsible for the students during “free time” and after the “lights out” time occurs ie supervise at night time when the students are meant to be sleeping
Once night activities conclude, teaching staff are responsible for the supervision of students. Tallong campus is located quite close to our nearest neighbours, so vigilance in the control of noise after 8pm is necessary.
- ✓ Administer any prescribed medication that students have brought to camp and keep a record of this administration
- ✓ Keep a record of any First Aid provided and pass a copy of this information onto the OES

Tallong Campus staff thank you in advance for your assistance in helping our programs to be successful.