EXCURSIONS AND CAMPS

Excursions

In order that learning remains meaningful and relevant to children, it is appropriate that teachers organise excursions and camps for children away from the school environment. At Mary Immaculate, we recognise the value of educational outcomes achievable through excursions. The school has detailed procedures in place to ensure the wellbeing and safety of all when excursions occur.

Excursions however, add an additional risk to the safety and well being of children. It is important that the following procedures are followed in organising and undertaking an excursion (including risk management and safety control measures).

- Parents must sign a form providing the school with the child’s current medical history, medication requirements and consent to the excursion including medical authority. A record of a student’s significant medical conditions is kept with the supervising teacher on the excursion.

- Prior to the excursion, students are briefed on the nature of the excursion, the desired educational outcomes, the procedures for the day, the expected code of behaviour, consequences, potential risks and precautions as well as a response plan in case of emergency.

- Volunteers are given clear information as to their role for the day. An emergency contingency plan must be in place. Parents/carers volunteering for an excursion must have completed the Mandatory Volunteer Induction program. Details can be obtained from the school office.

Annual Camp

Students in Year 4-6 attend an annual camp, organized through various Adventure Education camps. The camp runs over 3 days and 2 nights. The school alternates between a bush camp and a beach camp.

Activities are conducted by trained outdoor education specialists and supervised by accompanying Mary Immaculate staff. Camps offer students an outdoor experience that will allow them to take part in challenging physical activities and develop teamwork skills through team building activities.

In 2015, students in Years 4, 5 and 6 will attend the Camp Alexandra Park Conference Centre at Alexandra Headlands – Sunshine Coast.
**Bi-Annual Sydney Canberra Trip**
This excursion is available to students in Years 6 and is run bi-annually for 4 days and is part of the curriculum program covered in the senior years.

Students leave Brisbane and fly to Sydney where they visit sites such as the Mary MacKillop Centre, Circular Quay, the Opera House and Mrs Macquarie’s chair. They participate in a Guided Walking Tour of The Rocks and visit St Mary’s Cathedral.

The group then travels to Canberra by bus and over the next 3, days visit sites / engage in activities such as Parliament House (Senate and House of Representatives), National Capital Exhibition, Floriade (dependant on time of the year), National Gallery, CSIRO, Old Parliament House, Electoral Education Centre, Film and Sound Archives, War Memorial, Black Mountain Tower, Australian Institute of Sport, National Museum of Australia, Questacon Science and Technology Museum and sometimes have an evening of ten pin bowling. The excursion ends with a flight from Canberra at the end of a very busy day 4.

The Sydney/Canberra trip is a most worthwhile excursion, as can be seen from the amount of activities and programs that are covered. Generally, parents assist with fund raising for this excursion to reduce the cost to students.
A Government subsidy can also be claimed.

Students from Year 6 who do not participate in this excursion to Sydney/Canberra attend the annual camp with Year 4 and 5 students.