Experiential Learning

Year 10 camp

Dates: Monday, 18 to Wednesday, 27 March 2024

Venue: Outward Bound Australia, Walpole and surrounding Walpole- Nornalup National Park, Broke Inlet areas

Camp Theme

This program gives the students an opportunity to put in place the skills they have learned in previous years through the Bunbury Cathedral Grammar School Experiential Learning Program. The program is an opportunity for students to experience self-sufficient journeying in a wilderness environment. The students travel primarily "under their own steam", and are responsible for many facets of the program, organising meals, time management, route planning and group organisation. The program focuses strongly on the empowerment of the students to make well-informed and balanced decisions for themselves and their peers. There is certainly an emphasis on teamwork, as what seems very challenging becomes achievable by working together.

Camp Objectives

The Experiential Learning Camp aims to:

- Heighten awareness and respect for:
 - o self, through outdoor challenges
 - o others, through group experiences and sharing decisions
 - o the natural environment, through direct experiences.
- Promote increased self-esteem, motivation and confidence by providing opportunities for attempting challenging (physically and mentally), unfamiliar activities in a supportive group atmosphere.
- Foster personal qualities such as resourcefulness, leadership, judgement, tolerance and perseverance.
- Provide experiences of reliance on others and responsibility for others.
- Foster interdependence by:
- o continuing to develop the ability to create and maintain healthy relationships with others
- o working to develop an organised, self-sufficient group that meets challenges as a team
- o continuing to develop and practice group decision making skills
- continuing to promote reflection and critical thinking around social relationships on camp compared with everyday situations.
- Instil and encourage environmental awareness and sound environmental practices.
- Foster recreational activities which are responsive to the natural environment and encourage critical thinking about our relationship with nature.
- Promote reflection on camp experiences and facilitate relating experiences / lessons learnt on camp to life at school and home.
- Experience wilderness environments with minimal vehicle or mechanical support.
- Teach and develop the following Experiential Learning skills and concepts:
- o expedition planning and organisational skills with route planning and navigation
- sound camping and camp cooking skills
- o safe practices and habits in the outdoors
- bushwalking and backpacking skills
- o paddling skills on flat water
- o bush ethics and environmental issues
- personal reflection opportunities
- o group strategies around problem solving and resolving conflict.



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Camp Outline

- Acknowledge and learn about Traditional Custodians; Noongar people
- Students' working in groups and are responsible for camping, cooking, timings etc.
- Five days' bushwalking
- Two half day raft paddling journey
- Half day High Ropes Course
- Half day Giant Ladder
- Half day solo/reflection time
- Half day bush cook
- Half day environmental rehabilitation