

Daradgee Environmental Education Centre

Curriculum Activity Risk Assessment

Activity Details

CARA Creation Date: 05-Feb-2024

Activity:	Camping		
Activity Scope:	<p>This guideline is provided to support schools in implementing the Managing risks in school curriculum activities procedure.</p> <p>The CARA planner must be used for the specific school context in conjunction with this guideline considering additional risks, hazards and controls and including environmental, facility, equipment and student considerations.</p> <p>For activities beyond the scope of this guideline, complete a CARA record using the CARA generic template.</p> <p>This guideline relates to student participation in residential camping, base camping and lightweight camping for one or more nights as an activity to support curriculum delivery.</p> <p>Residential camping occurs at centres that have permanent facilities, such as toilets, showers, kitchen and/or dormitory accommodation. This includes showground camping (e.g. camping in open air sheds/structures or tents with access to toilet facilities).</p> <p>Base camping involves sleeping in tents in a natural area for one or more nights, either at places with no facilities or at camps where some facilities are provided.</p> <p>Lightweight camping is the use of a temporary site in a natural area for one or more nights and requires participants to carry camping equipment to the camping area.</p> <p>Depending on the scope of this activity, other risk assessments may be required when planning. Curriculum activities encompassing more than one CARA guideline (e.g. Bushwalking or Swimming in locations other than pools while Camping) must comply with the requirements of all CARA guidelines appropriate to the activity.</p> <p>Schools should consider conducting this activity at a Department of Education Outdoor and Environmental Education Centre (O&EEC) and consult with O&EEC centre staff for risk assessment requirements.</p> <p>For activities conducted at a non-Department of Education venue, and/or when engaging external expertise, request written risk assessment advice and attach it to this CARA record.</p> <p>For activities conducted off-site, schools must comply with the School excursions and International school study tours procedure.</p>		
Guidelines:	https://education.qld.gov.au/curriculum/stages-of-schooling/CARA/activity-guidelines		
Activity Description:	<p>Year Level: F-12+Adults Student Numbers: up to 130 Supervision Ratio: Variable Activity Description: Residential camping in cabins & dorms Parental permissions are required</p>		
Inherent Risk Level:	Medium		
Inherent Risk Level Description:	Accompanied residential camping. Residential camping occurs at centres that have permanent facilities, such as toilets, showers, kitchen and/or dormitory accommodation. This includes showground camping (e.g. camping in open air sheds/structures or tents with access to toilet facilities).		
Start Date:	Monday, 05 February, 2024	End Date:	Friday, 28 March, 2025
On School Grounds:	Yes	Is parental permission required for this activity?	No

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Activity Requirements

Reference to [Australian Adventure Activity Standard](#) and [Camping Australian Adventure Activity Good Practice Guide](#) is required when planning this activity.

Prior consultation is required with local authority (e.g. [Department of Environment and Science](#) [for park alerts] and [Queensland Fire & Emergency Services](#)) for local advice, emergency support mechanisms and additional supervision requirements to ensure participant and public safety.

Permission/permits are required to be obtained from land managers (e.g. [QGPF](#), local councils or private landholders), if applicable.

Students

Schools must consider age, maturity and skill level of students when planning curriculum activities. Adjustments are required for [students with disability](#) to support access and participation in the curriculum. Consult with the parents/carers of students with disability, or when appropriate the student, to ensure risks related to their child's participation in the activity are identified and managed.

Schools must consult current student medical information and/or health plans in accordance with the [Managing students' health support needs at school](#) procedure. Record information about any student condition (e.g. physical or medical) that may inhibit safe engagement in the activity and include specific support measures within emergency procedures.

Emergency and first-aid

Emergency plans and injury management procedures must be established for foreseeable incidents (e.g. separation from group, evacuation procedure, thunderstorm, [snake bites](#)).

Adult supervisors must have:

- emergency contact details of all participants;
- a medical alert list and a process for administering student medication;
- communication equipment suitable to conditions (e.g. two-way radio, mobile phone) and a process for obtaining external assistance and/or receiving emergency advice. Note that battery life can be impacted by weather conditions;
- recovery/rescue equipment suitable to the location (e.g. emergency position-indicating radio beacon [EPIRB] or personal locator beacon [PLB], flares);
- an appointed emergency contact (e.g. the Principal, a park ranger, or local police) who is provided with a route card listing activity details (outline of the route to be followed, the number and names of the party, the estimated time of departure/arrival);
- emergency shelter/protection locations and alternative routes that consider foreseeable emergencies (e.g. injury, bushfire, thunderstorm, extreme temperature, tides).

Safety procedures must be determined for the location (e.g. out-of-bounds areas, roll marking, camping with indirect supervision).

Access is required to [First aid equipment](#) and consumables suitable for foreseeable incidents.

An adult with current emergency qualifications is required to be quickly accessible to the activity area. Emergency qualifications include:

- [HLTAID009](#) Provide cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR);
- [HLTAID010](#) Provide basic emergency life support;
- [HLTAID011](#) Provide first aid;
- [HLTAID013](#) Provide first aid in remote situations;
- or equivalent competencies.

Induction and instruction

Induction is required for all adult supervisors on emergency procedures (e.g. lost member of group) and

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<p>safety procedures (e.g. thunderstorms). If the activity is conducted at an off-site facility, induction is to be informed by advice provided in consultation with expertise at the venue.</p> <p>Instruction is required for students and adult supervisors on correct techniques (e.g. appropriate toileting procedures for the duration of the camp, sources of drinking water).</p> <p>Consent</p> <p>Parent consent is required for all activities conducted off-site and strongly recommended for high risk activities conducted on-site.</p> <p>Parent consent is required for extreme risk activities.</p>	
<p>The activity requirements have been met and any additional requirements for the activity are included below or attached.</p>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<p>At Daradgee student campers are accommodated in dormitory accommodation.</p>	

Risk Management Details

Supervision	
<p>For activities with students with a medical condition or disability that may impact on safety during the activity, consultation with parents is required prior to allocating supervision to determine the impact of students' medical condition or disability on safety during the activity.</p>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<p>The number of adult supervisors required to fulfil emergency and supervision roles must consider the nature of the activity, students' ages, abilities and specialised learning, access and/or health needs. At least two adult supervisors are required for a group of 20 students. The Camping Australian Adventure Activity Good Practice Guide should be consulted for supervision ratios.</p>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<p>Before the activity, all adult supervisors:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • must be familiar with the contents of the CARA record • must assess weather conditions, and obtain accurate information on tides, depths, currents and other expected water conditions (if applicable) prior to undertaking the activity, inspecting the intended location in order to identify variable risks, hazards and potential dangers. 	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<p>During the activity, all adult supervisors:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • must be readily identifiable • must closely monitor students with health support needs • must comply with control measures from the CARA record and adapt as hazards arise • must suspend the activity if the conditions become unfavourable (e.g. poor visibility, extreme temperatures, thunderstorms) • must provide appropriate supervision, including clear boundaries, for students during unstructured free time. 	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<p>Most residential situations involve two distinct supervision types:</p> <p>1. Lead by DEEC Staff - predominantly in daylight hours incl. boating, ropes course, challenges cooking etc. 8am-5pm</p> <p>2. Lead by School Camp Leader and other staff incl. teachers, teacher aids, volunteer parents etc. outside 8am-5pm hours. The camp leader must negotiate with their principal and have approval for all out of hour camp activities and supervision eg. evening activities, overnight sleeping arrangements, visits to off site venues etc.</p> <p>Based on https://australianaas.org.au/wp-content/uploads/Bushwalking-GPG-v1.0.pdf this does not relate to DEEC residential camping.</p>	

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Supervisor Qualifications	
All adult supervisors must comply with the Working with Children Authority - Blue Cards procedure and be able to identify, and respond to, risks or hazards that may emerge during the activity.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
A registered teacher must be appointed to maintain overall responsibility for the activity.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
At least one adult supervisor is required to be:	
A registered teacher with competence (knowledge and skills) in residential camping activities.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
OR	
An adult supervisor, working under the direct supervision of a registered teacher, with competence (knowledge and skills) in residential camping activities and the potential hazards.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Visiting school admin to determine requirements ie. volunteers on school camps.	

Facilities and Equipment	
Location must be suitable for the activity being undertaken. Undertake a reconnaissance of new or infrequently used locations to ascertain suitability. Consider the geography when planning the route, to avoid walking along cliff edges (slipping hazard) and below cliff faces (falling rocks). Plan alternative routes in case of emergency situations (e.g. bushfire, thunderstorm, extreme temperature, king tide).	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Participants must wear Personal protective equipment as relevant (e.g. long-sleeved shirt and pants for all weather extremes, wind and rain jacket and suitable enclosed footwear).	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
All equipment must be used in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Establish and employ a process for checking for damage for all equipment used in the activity.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
A retirement schedule must be developed to replace equipment by manufacturers' nominated expiry date or when significant wear causes a hazard.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
If privately owned equipment is being used, Principal approval and owner consent/insurance details must be obtained prior to the activity.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

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<p>Personal equipment for all participants including, but not limited to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> individual drinking containers with each participant carrying 2-3 litres of water for each day; food supplies in excess of the requirements of the duration of the camp, including emergency rations for 24 hours more than the initial planned duration; insect repellent, sunscreen and personal hygiene items as necessary; toileting equipment (if applicable); a bag for rubbish; suitable sleeping bag/linen, as required; suitable torch and spare batteries; and waterproof containers for all equipment that can be damaged by water. 	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
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Hazards and Control Measures	
Further to those listed, include any additional hazards and control measures considering the local context of the activity.	
Animal bites/diseases - stings, poisoning, infection	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Observe wildlife from a safe distance.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Instruct students not to feed wildlife and how to respond to approaching wildlife.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Adhere to established practices regarding the use of insect repellent, outlined in Insect viruses and allergies .	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Showground camping to be set up in a designated area away from restrained animals (e.g. sheep or cattle).	<input type="checkbox"/>
Environmental conditions - weather, surrounds, surfaces	
Ensure tents are not erected under large trees.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Brief all participants on: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> purpose of the activity and potential hazards (e.g. falling branches from trees, thorned flora, steep slopes, wild pigs); basic first aid procedures for biological hazards they may encounter (e.g. snakes, ticks, leeches). 	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Constantly monitor surroundings for weather, terrain and wildlife hazards over the duration of the camp.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Follow the Managing excessive heat in schools guidelines when participating in very hot or extreme heat conditions.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Monitor participants for cold related illness (e.g. hypothermia) in cold weather conditions.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Ensure drink breaks occur regularly. Make water available for individual participants between drink breaks.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Use torches at night when moving around site.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

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Heat sources	
Open flames (e.g. camp fires) are positioned, built, monitored and extinguished appropriately.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Utilise cooking methods (e.g. closed kitchen, barbecue, camping stove, open fire) that are appropriate for the health, maturity, fitness, suitability and competency of participants, adhering to CARA guideline Food production .	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Position food preparation, shelter and sanitation to avoid any potential physical and health hazards.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Injury	
Students aware of the location of emergency and first-aid equipment.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Student issues - student number, high risk behaviours, medical conditions, separation from the group	
Brief all participants on: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> appropriate behaviours to help keep themselves safe during the camp; and procedure should a participant become separated or lost from the group. 	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Maintain contact between all group members through regular checks on group numbers.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Implement procedures (e.g. buddy system, roll marking mechanisms) to account for all participants.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Visibility	
Have students wear easily identifiable clothing (e.g. high visibility rash vest).	<input type="checkbox"/>
Ensure staff can easily recognise those students with health support needs and are familiar with their needs.	<input type="checkbox"/>
Additional links Queensland Outdoor Recreation Federation	
<p>When collecting firewood - be on the lookout for snakes, spiders or poisonous plants. A fixed boundary surrounds the DEEC fire pit which is hosed out at the end of the session. Students are not permitted to enter the fire pit when not in use or without supervision of an adult. We recommend not wearing synthetic clothing when around the campfire and keeping long hair tied back. Students recommended to wear closed in shoes if they are roasting marshmallows. Marshmallow roasting tools are not to be swung around (strike danger).</p> <p>Students are not required to wear identifiable clothing on camp. When swimming, high vis caps are required for students unable to swim or with health support needs were appropriate at Polly Creek. All students will wear a life jacket at Babinda boulders.</p>	

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Planning Considerations

Which students will be involved?

- Consider the number of students, size of student groups and students' capabilities e.g. age, experience, competence, fitness, maturity.
- Consider any individual student needs e.g. personalised learning, support provisions (including behaviour support plans), health management (including health plans and prescribed medication requirements).

Where will the students be?

- Consider the location of the activity e.g. remote/easily accessible, public /private, school/classroom/workshop/other.
- Is the number of students appropriate for the available space?
- If outdoors – sunsafe strategies are implemented; weather and environmental conditions are assessed before and during activity (e.g. temperature, storms, water currents, tides); and strategies to reduce the likelihood of viruses, allergies and skin infections caused by insects (e.g. ticks, mosquitoes, spiders) and other animals are applied.
- The site is checked for hazards (e.g. poisonous plants, dangerous animals, uneven terrain, barbed wire,) and necessary controls implemented.
- Activities are appropriately situated in relation to buildings, pedestrians, members of the public, vehicles and other activities e.g. designated areas for activity, spectators and vehicles are established.

What will the students be doing?

- Consider the nature and duration of the activity i.e. need for drinking water, food, rest, appropriate clothing, warm-up and warm-down.
- Instruction in rules and pre-requisite skills is provided.
- Student skills are developed in a progressive and sequential manner.
- First aid and emergency medical treatment provisions are appropriate for the type of activity and location e.g. first aid kit, first aid trained personnel, Ventolin®, Epipen®, and students' personal prescribed medications as required in health plans are available.
- Emergency response strategies are in place e.g. communication plans (e.g. mobile phone, walkie talkie), safety induction, evacuation plans.
- Hair, clothing, footwear and jewellery are worn in a manner that is appropriate and safe for the activity.
- Personal items, e.g. drink bottles, towels and mouthguards, will not be shared between students.

What will the students be using?

- Instruction in safety procedures and safe handling of equipment is provided.
- Equipment is suitable for the activity, properly maintained, appropriately used and complies with the relevant safety standard.
- [Relevant department procedures and guidelines](#) are adhered to for the use of equipment and work processes.

Who will be leading the activity?

- A registered teacher has overall responsibility for the activity.
- Sufficient adult supervision is in place to manage the activity safely (including in emergency situations).
- The activity leader has the competence (knowledge and skills) to plan, induct, instruct and manage the activity safely for students and others.
- There are sufficient adults present with current First Aid qualifications (including CPR) or ready access to qualified first aid personnel.
- Blue Card requirements are adhered to for leaders/volunteers.

I have incorporated the above factors when planning my risk management strategies for this activity.

Additional activity-specific requirements for students with specialised learning needs are provided in the Other Details box below.

Individual student needs - Students' specialised learning/behaviour/health needs are considered and strategies are developed in collaboration with relevant school staff prior to attending camp and participating in this activity.