



POLICY 1.4 Education Outside the Classroom

Ratified at Board Meeting	24 June 2021
Next Review Due	2024

RATIONALE:

Education Outside The Classroom (EOTC) is an integral part of a balanced curriculum. Social, emotional and physical development and learning in all curriculum areas are enhanced by relevant, enjoyable and progressive experiences beyond the classroom through quality EOTC programmes.

PURPOSE:

To ensure the physical, emotional and social safety of both staff and students during EOTC activities and to comply with the Ministry of Education Health and Safety requirements.

DELEGATIONS:

- The Board delegates authority to the Principal and Senior Leadership Team to approve EOTC trips within New Zealand. International trips must be approved by the Board.

GUIDELINES:

1. EOTC activities are intended to:
 - Provide opportunities for students to develop intellectual, physical, social, cultural and emotional skills.
 - Recognise and make use of resources in the community, providing where possible local, authentic and relevant context for learning.
 - Develop students' personal confidence and self-esteem.
 - Increase students' awareness of, and concern for, the environment beyond the school.
 - Increase students' awareness of, and respect for, the similarities and differences existing between cultures, groups and individuals.
2. EOTC practice at Aquinas College is based on the standards in the guidelines issued by the Ministry of Education - Refer [EOTC Guidelines: Bringing the Curriculum Alive](#).
3. Professional development opportunities will be provided to up skill staff regarding EOTC responsibilities.
4. The Board is required to approve all requests for EOTC involving international travel. Applications are required at least eight (8) months prior to the trip.
5. Provision for attending Mass will be made for a College trip over a weekend where practical.

6. The Board acknowledges that EOTC activities can only be offered through participant funding. There is an expectation that participants will financially contribute via donation towards the fair cost of providing EOTC activities - Refer [School Donations Guidelines](#)
7. The Board will provide financial assistance to any student with a demonstrated need.
8. Staff costs for any trip can be built into the overall cost to be supported by participants.
9. Aquinas College volunteers participating in overnight school trips will be required to be Police vetted (excludes students and billet families).

ASSOCIATED LEGISLATION / DOCUMENTATION:

- [Health and Safety at Work Act 2015](#)
- [Vulnerable Children Act 2014](#)
- [Health and Safety at Work \(Adventure Activities\) Regulations 2016](#)
- [EOTC Guidelines: Bringing the Curriculum Alive](#)