Activity Benefit Risk Assessment

Name of Educator: Chrissy Brockhurst		
Activity: Canoeing	Location: Boshack Outback, Bolgart	
Date of initial assessment: 30 March 2017	Date of latest revision: 24 th March 2024	

Benefits of the activity:

- Opportunity to adventure out onto the lake and experience peace on the water
- Using gross motor body strength and coordination to paddle a canoe
- Working as a team to navigate, steer and move through the water
- Learning and applying safe practices when canoeing
- Experiencing a recreational activity as a form of nature connection
- Canoeing at Boshack is in shallow, closed water from a fixed location

Hazards Identified:	Precautions/Control measures:	Who/when:	Risk Assessment after precautions
Injury from pulling, pushing canoes in and out of the water	Facilitator to supervise pulling canoe to and from water, ensuring that students do not pull weight beyond their strength and ability, are communicating and working as a team and are mindful of other students around them	Boshack Outback	Low
	Ensure all canoes are fitted with adequate hand holds and ropes	Boshack Outback	
Drowning, concussion, impalement or other injury from capsizing canoe	PFDs to be in good repair and available for all students and adults to wear while canoeing. Two sizes to be available of Type 1 Australian Standards (AS) 1512 or PFD Type 2 AS1499. Whistles must be attached to all PFDs*	Boshack Outback	Moderate
	PFDs to be hung up and dried/maintained to avoid mould	Boshack Outback	
	Personal Flotation Devices (PFDs) to be worn by all people while canoeing*	Boshack Outback	
	Children must be of an age where they can fit a PFD, have strength to manoeuvre a canoe and the ability to follow instructions. Facilitators to assess	Boshack Outback	
	where strength is minimal and work closer with these students.	Boshack Outback	
	Facilitators must have an aquatic rescue qualification or at least one adult with an aquatic rescue qualification must be present	Boshack Outback	
	A maximum of 12 canoes out on the water at one time with a maximum of 32 students.	Boshack Outback	



Activity Benefit Risk Assessment

Take Court of Feel the Real hand	A minimum of one aquatic rescue trained facilitator plus one teacher required for up to 16 students, two aquatic rescue trained supervisors plus one teacher required for up to 32 students.* (Ideally the aquatic rescue supervision ratio is 1:11) Facilitator and teacher supervise from canoes.	Boshack Outback Boshack Outback	
	Facilitator to be First Aid trained HLTAID001, HLTAID002 and HLTAID003 An equipped first aid kit to be available with emergency contact directions in the Boshack office space in dining hall	Boshack Outback	
	Students are instructed in safe entry and exit from canoe including: putting paddle in first, holding both sides of the canoe walls, walking to seat along the middle of the canoe	Boshack Outback Boshack Outback	
	Students must sit while canoeing, no standing allowed. Students are encouraged to sit in the middle of the seat with their legs wide Students that are behaving recklessly or	Boshack Outback	
	capsize are not allowed to return to the activity Regularly conduct head counts to ensure all students are present in canoes. Head count before & after being on the water.	Boshack Outback	
Students stranded in canoe	Call students with a dingo howl or whistle to form a raft of canoes if extra safety information needs to be delivered Canoes to be kept in good repair and are watertight. At least 3 canoes to contain a tow rope	Boshack Outback	Low
	Students instructed on what space to canoe within dependent on wind strength and direction	Boshack Outback	
	Facilitator to use a canoe with a tow rope	Boshack Outback	
	In case of capsize, students to swim to shore with PFD or be towed by another canoe if unable to right canoe	Boshack Outback	
	Canoe to be retrieved at another time	Boshack Outback	
Bacteria infection (from contact with stagnant water)	Students discouraged from swimming or splashing water.	Boshack Outback	Low

Activity Benefit Risk Assessment					
Sunburn Sunburn	Students asked to wear water activity clothing and apply sunscreen before activity with a Hat.		Boshack Outback	Low	
Hypothermia	Time canoeing on water limited in winter as necessary. Warm showers available after canoeing activity. Space blanket available in first aid kit		Boshack Outback	Low	
Abrasions and lacerations	Edges of canoes to be maintained and in good repair to avoid sharp edges, broken plastic and exposed metal/rust		Boshack Outback	Low	
Bites and stings	Canoes to be sprayed and swept out/brushed before canoe sessions to remove red back and other spiders and insects from underneath seats and around handles		Boshack Outback	Low	
Equipment	<u>'</u>		•	'	
Provided by Educated by Natu	ıre:	Provided by V	Venue:		
nil		Canoes PFDs with whistles Tow ropes			
Introductory message: (See Sc	ript for more specific instruction	ons)			
 How to put on PFDs How to use paddle to manoeuvre a canoe Using teamwork to steer and navigate around lake obstacles How to enter and exit a canoe safely Must be seated at all times Dingo howl or whistle to raft together Boundaries and where to canoe 					
Supporting Documents: *Department of Education, Outdoor Education and Recreation Activities Policy Review Process:					

Date: 24th March 2024

Date:

Review assessment 1. Annually, 2. After an incident, 3. After a major change

Chrissy Brockhurst

Monitor effectiveness of control measures and adjust if necessary

Educators/stakeholders sign understanding of assessment

Assessment prepared by:

Sighted and signed by Director:

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Risk Matrix

Moderat Insignificant Minor Major Catastrophic **Almost** Moderate High High Extreme Extreme certain Consequences Likely Moderate Moderate High Extreme Extreme **Possible** Low Moderate High High Extreme Moderate Unlikely Low Low High High Moderate High Rare Low Low Low

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