



YEAR 10 EXTENDED EXCURSION PROCESS

Updated: 2023
Review: 2027

Rationale

The Outdoor Education Group Year 10 camp is one of the central experiences of the Pastoral Care program at Our Lady of Mercy College. Students are away for 6 nights in Week 5 of Term 4. This camp provides an opportunity for the Year 10 cohort to develop resilience and camaraderie as they prepare for the challenges of Years 11 and 12. The College views the camp as a further opportunity to develop the Mercy Values.

Students demonstrate these values in the following ways:

- courage when they face and overcome challenges
- service when they take care of the environment and their fellow group members
- compassion when they offer support and encouragement to others.
- respect when they acknowledge the gifts and talents of their peers
- hospitality when they welcome those in their group who are not necessarily students with whom they have regular contact
- justice when they deal fairly with group members and camp leaders

The College witnesses the benefits of this experience each year when the students return from camp having enhanced a range of skills in the physical and social/emotional realms which they are able to utilise and further develop in upper school.

Finance

Parents begin paying for this camp in Year 7. This ensures that the full cost is not required in a single payment. Once students commence Year 9, there is a requirement that the College makes part payment to the organisation facilitating the event. This ensures that our dates are 'locked in' for the following year. Whilst we appreciate that there could be extenuating circumstances that prevent a student from attending, the College makes payment based on the entire cohort attending the event.

Notification of Extenuating Circumstances / Credit

The family is required to notify the College of extenuating circumstances as soon as possible and before Term 1, Week 5 of the Year 10 academic year. The notification is required in writing and should indicate the reasons for the decision being made. Supporting documentation (if appropriate) should be provided at the same time.

Notifications after Term 1, Week 5 of Year 10 academic year, should follow the same process.

Following the completion of the camp, each extenuating circumstances / credit request will be considered by the Head of Year, Director of Wellbeing and College Accountant. Where a decision is made to provide a credit, the following guidelines will apply:

1. The family notified the College of their child's inability to attend the Year 10 camp **before** Term 1 Week 5 of the Year 10 academic year. If approved, the family will receive a maximum of



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75% credit of the fees paid toward the Year 10 camp. The College retains the balance to offset costs incurred.

2. The family notified the College of their child's inability to attend the Year 10 camp **after** Term 1 Week 5 of the Year 10 academic year. If approved, the family will receive a maximum of **50%** credit of the fees paid toward the Year 10 camp. The College retains the balance to offset costs incurred.
3. Student / Family opt to attend in a part-time capacity due to extenuating circumstances
 - In this circumstance, no credit to be awarded as the College still incurs the full cost. The student has received some benefit by attending part-time.

