



Matauri Bay School

(This is a drafted policy for our whānau to review)

Policy On: Education Outside the Classroom (EOTC) (1.2)

Definition:

EOTC is defined as all those events that occur outside the classroom, both on, and off-site, including all curriculum, sporting and cultural activities. They can be:

- Excursions out of school for the day, or part of the day, for example a trip to the beach.
- Overnight camps. □ Children learn by enjoying experiences appropriate to their needs and environment. Children need a variety of experiences for maximum development, and should be given opportunities to explore and learn from the world outside the classroom. □ EOTC day trips or activities must be approved by the principal and overnight camps by the board of trustees, who hold the ultimate responsibility for approval of excursions. All school health and safety policies apply to EOTC activities. □

Rationale: □

BOT are legally responsible for the safety of all students involved in EOTC programmes. If there is an accident during an EOTC event a board may be held accountable whether the accident is caused by the actions or omissions of a teacher, outside helper, student or commercial operator contracted by the board. A board's legal obligations include those set out in

legislation and those arising out of the general law.

□ However if staff deviate from school policy or procedure, they may be held responsible should anything go wrong.
□ School BOT and teachers owe a duty of care to students to safe guard them from harm in situations where a reasonable person would have foreseen the likelihood of harm arising. This responsibility continues even when school activities are located away from the school and involve outside helpers, parents or instructors and when students participate in course packages offered by commercial operators. □ The values and challenges coming from any type of outdoor experience should be available to every child. □ The BOT recognized the huge value of the EOTC for the children and support the Principal and staff in this experience.

Education outside the classroom (EOTC) provides opportunities for a vast array of positive outcomes in a student's education. However, while participating, the safety of our children, teachers and volunteers is paramount. □ As far as practically possible therefore the Board will:

- . i) provide a safe physical and emotional environment for participants (students, employees and volunteers).
- . ii) comply with legal requirements (Refer 'Safety and EOTC', Ministry of Education, 2002 or subsequent updates).

The Principal, under the direction of the Board of Trustees, shall ensure compliance by all parties with all relevant legislative and regulatory requirements related to EOTC.

These requirements may include, but are not limited to:

- Completed forms – RAMs
- Compliance sheets and other Health & Safety information provided by the venue operator

- Safe Environment (Physical / Emotional)

- MoE Safety and EOTC – “A Good Practice Guide for Schools” □Purposes I Objectives:

- Provide students with opportunities to learn outside the classroom, in all curriculum areas.

- Promote appreciation of our heritages - local, national and global.

- Increase students’ awareness and understanding of the traditions and values of their own, the □tangata whenua and other cultural groups.

- Increase student understanding of different perspectives on land, natural resources and the □environment, and of the need for conservation management.

- Provide students with opportunities for enjoyment, adventure and challenge, both close to home □and far away.

- Develop student skills so they can move with confidence and safety in urban, rural and wilderness □settings.

- Provide students with opportunities to enhance spiritual, physical and mental well-being through □uplifting experiences in a natural environment.

- Help students develop respect for themselves and others, by providing opportunities for personal □and social development.

- Enable students to take increased responsibility for their own development and to regard learning □as enjoyable, continuous and lifelong.

• Provide students with opportunities to develop in many diverse ways. □ Taking children out of the school environment can provide them with life changing experiences, which they will remember for the rest of their lives. It can also put them at risk and into unfamiliar situations, Careful planning and preparation is needed to minimize risks and make the activity a positive experience for each student.

Pat Durham

Wayne Lunjevich

Chair Board of Trustees

Principal

Date: April 2014