

Camping



The planning considerations that are common to all curriculum activities can be found in the [CARA generic template](#). These must be considered as well as the activity-specific considerations outlined below.

Activity scope

This guideline relates to student participation in camping in a natural area for one or more nights as a curriculum activity.

Mandatory/special requirements

Mandatory requirements must be met for the activity to be conducted. Special requirements are to be considered in the planning and delivery of this activity.

Age, size, ability and maturity of students must be considered when determining suitability to undertake physical activities.

Refer to [Queensland Adventure Activity Standards](#) and the [Rural Fire Service](#) when planning this activity.

Depending on the scope of this activity, other risk assessments may be required. Refer to other [Outdoor recreation](#) and [Sport](#) activity guidelines as appropriate.

Refer to the [Food handling](#) and [Cooking and maintaining a safe kitchen](#) activity guidelines as appropriate.

Adhere to [Guidelines for Managing Risks in Recreational Water](#) if applicable.

Risk level

- **Medium** risk: Lightweight camping, base camping, residential camping.
- **Extreme** risk: Unaccompanied lightweight camping.

Minimum supervision requirements

- Designated group roles (e.g. leader, first aid officer).
- A management plan for the administering of prescription medications (e.g. asthma puffer) to students.
- Leaders who are familiar with the intended program and emergency procedures to be used.
- Adult supervision in place to oversee student groups. Extra vigilance in supervision is recommended during unstructured free time as there is an elevated likelihood of incidents.
- Consult the Planning Considerations section as outlined in the [CARA generic template](#).

Minimum qualifications for supervisors

All risk levels

- Supervisors should have demonstrated skills and currency that meet leadership, group management, technical capacities and safety requirements (including current familiarity with the environment, map coverage of the area and emergency procedures) of the specific circumstances being addressed.

Refer to [Appendix 1](#) for specific information on supervisor qualifications for each risk level.

Note: Competence is to be assessed annually, considering the outdoor environment that the activity is taking place in, to ensure currency and relevancy. Details about how the activity leader has demonstrated competence should be included in the 'Other Details' box of the CARA generic template or OneSchool module.



Refer to the [National Outdoor Recreation Training Package](#) for further information on supervisor qualifications.

Minimum requirements for equipment/facilities

Medium risk level

- Permission and/or relevant permits from landowners and land-management agencies to enter their property. Adhere to the requirements of permits.
- An emergency management plan, including responsibilities of leaders and participants to mitigate possible risks.
- The appointed **first aid officer** should have:
 - a first aid kit suitable for the activity and the experience to use it effectively;
 - a medical alert list collated from information on medical consent forms before departure and to be carried at all times;
 - a first aid register, accident and illness reports;
 - procedures for administering student medication; and
 - a communication procedure for external assistance if required.
- Effective communication system including a communication device that will work in the relevant conditions (e.g. two-way radio, mobile phone). Note that battery life can be impacted by weather conditions.
- Waterproof containers for all electronic and other equipment that can be damaged by water.
- Personal equipment for all participants including (but not limited to):
 - individual drinking containers with each student carrying 2 – 3 litres of water for each day;
 - personal food supplies for self-catered camping, including emergency rations for 24 hours more than the planned duration of the camp;
 - protective clothing (long-sleeved shirt and pants for all weather extremes, wind and rain jacket, suitable shoes and suitable footwear for swimming in creeks, if appropriate);
 - insect repellent, sunscreen and personal hygiene items as necessary;
 - toileting equipment (if applicable); and
 - a plastic (or reusable) bag for rubbish.
 - compass and map and the skills to use them;
 - waterproof matches/BBQ lighter;
 - suitable sleeping bag/linen, as required; and
 - suitable torch and spare batteries.

Extreme risk level

- All requirements for equipment/facilities for medium risk level activities and a personal first aid kit.

Hazards and controls

Medium risk level

Hazards	Control measures
Biological material	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Brief all participants about the nature and purpose of the activity, potential hazards (e.g. thorned flora, steep slopes, wild pigs) and appropriate safety procedures, including those of the first aid officer. • Brief all participants on basic first aid procedures for biological hazards they may encounter (e.g. ticks, leeches). • Brief all participants on appropriate toileting procedures for the duration of the camp. • Brief all participants about hygienic preparation and serving of food.
Environmental conditions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assess the weather conditions and the conditions of the terrain before the camp, identify potential dangers (e.g. fire or flash flooding susceptibility, extreme temperatures and potential flying items during strong winds and thunderstorms) and develop suitable emergency procedures. • Plan and ensure all supervisors and students are prepared for a range of emergencies (e.g. a lost member of a group, medical emergency, equipment failure, storm etc.). • Constantly monitor surroundings for weather, terrain and wildlife hazards over the duration of the camp. • Adjust and enact emergency procedures accordingly to prevent catastrophic consequences. • Ensure food preparation, shelter and sanitation areas are positioned to avoid any potential physical and health hazards. • Ensure that minimal environmental impact message is conveyed (e.g. waste disposal, trampling vegetation).
Equipment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure all equipment is well maintained. • Ensure students are aware of the location of emergency and first-aid equipment. • Consider any recovery/rescue equipment that may be necessary depending on the location (e.g. EPIRB, satellite emergency notification device, flares). • Ensure suitable communication is available and in working order consider mobile phone network access, battery and waterproof casing. • Carry electronic and other equipment that can be damaged by water in water resistant containers. • Ensure torches are used at night when moving around site. • Brief all participants on the safety aspects of cooking methods and equipment used. • Brief all participants about cleaning the food preparation, storage and serving equipment.
Extreme temperature sources	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure any open flames (e.g. campfires) are positioned, built, monitored and extinguished appropriately. • 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.

Hazards	Control measures
Student considerations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review health, maturity, fitness, suitability and competency of participating students. • Record individual student medical conditions and brief staff on any student health plans. • Brief all participants on the procedure to be followed should a participant become separated or lost from the camp. • Ensure students are appropriately supervised during unstructured free time.

Additional links

- Safety in Recreational Water Activities Act 2011 (Qld)
<http://www.legislation.qld.gov.au/LEGISLTN/CURRENT/S/SafeRecWaA11.pdf>
- The Duke of Edinburgh's International Award - Queensland
<http://www.dukesaward.qld.gov.au/>

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Appendix 1:

Supervisor qualifications

Medium risk level

Residential camping:

- A registered teacher with competence (knowledge and skills) in camping activities.

Lightweight or Base camping:

- A registered teacher with competence (knowledge and skills) in lightweight or base camping.

OR

- An adult with Certificate III in Sport, Outdoor or Community Recreation with specialisations in appropriate activities, working under established safety procedures and the direct supervision of a registered teacher.

OR

- A registered teacher or other adult (working under established safety procedures and the direct supervision of a registered teacher) with a statement of attainment or qualification from a Registered Training Organisation (RTO) including the following field operations units of competence or equivalent:
 - SROOPS006B/SISOOPS202A Use and maintain a temporary or overnight site;
 - SROOPS001B/SISOOPS201A Minimise environmental impact;
 - SROOPS004B/SISOOPS306A Interpret weather conditions in the field; and
 - PUAOPE002A/PUAOPE002B Operate communications systems and equipment.

Extreme risk level

Unaccompanied Lightweight camping:

- A registered teacher with a statement of attainment or qualification from an Registered Training Organisation (RTO) including the following field operations units of competence:

SROOPS006B/SISOOPS202A Use and maintain a temporary or overnight site

SROOPS001B/SISOOPS201A Minimise environmental impact

SROOPS004B/SISOOPS306A Interpret weather conditions in the field

OR

- A leader other than a registered teacher (working under established safety procedures and the direct supervision of a registered teacher), with a statement of attainment or qualification for a nationally recognised course or Skill Set in Field Operations from an Registered Training Organisation (RTO) including the following:

SROOPS006B/SISOOPS202A Use and maintain a temporary or overnight site

SROOPS001B/SISOOPS201A Minimise environmental impact

SROOPS004B/SISOOPS306A Interpret weather conditions in the field

PUAOPE0002A/PUAOPE002B Operate Communications systems and equipment,

OR

- A leader other than a registered teacher, working under established safety procedures and the direct supervision of a registered teacher, with a Certificate III in Outdoor Recreation, including the following electives:

SROOPS006B/SISOOPS202A Use and maintain a temporary or overnight site

PUAOPE002A/PUAOPE002B Operate communications systems and equipment.