

December 2025

Re: Year 7 Outdoor Education Camp 2026

Dear Parents and students,

The Year 7 Outdoor Education program is held early term 1. To assist you in getting organised, some preliminary program and packing information is given below. Further details will be provided when school returns in late January.

The Year 7 Outdoor Education program is held at the College's own property - Camp Ibis, on the Banksia Peninsula in the Gippsland Lakes area on Gunai-Kurnai Country. This Outdoor Education program is an integral part of the school curriculum for students' personal development.

The 5 day program is carefully structured to teach students a variety of outdoor skills, in a number of fun activities that may include: bush and beach walking, orienteering, adventure racing / obstacle courses, sailing, stand up paddle boarding, canoeing, bush cooking, camping and mountain biking. Whilst undertaking these activities students will also be learning about the local environment and history. Throughout the week students will be challenged in various ways, taking on leadership roles, being an active team member, solving problems, taking on responsibilities and showing independence; all the while having a great time and sharing much fun and laughter with their Mentor teacher and peers.

CAMP DATES:

• 7U, 7V, & 7W: 9 - 13 February

• 7R, 7S, & 7T: 2 - 6 March

• 7X, 7Y, & 7Z: 16 - 20 March

All camps will depart from South Rd gates at 8.30am on the Monday morning. All camps will return to South Rd gates at 4.30pm on the Friday afternoon. We will advise which classes are going on which exact camp when school starts in late January.

CLOTHING / EQUIPMENT

Students should be well prepared for an exciting week of activities. Preparation and packing are worthwhile learning experiences for the students although it would be appreciated if you could supervise and help if needed. Your child should carefully check off the equipment against the attached list provided and pack it, ensuring their ability to repack each day while on camp.

The clothing and equipment list is attached. To make this as simple as possible, we have set up two options for you to purchase and / or hire your gear. To ensure the equipment meets our requirements and safety standards, OED staff have selected an approved range of specific items that families can choose from, to best suit their child and budget.

Online you can visit:

Vast Outdoors

One Planet Camp List - enter "St Leonards College", year 7 camps

Or if you prefer an in-person local shopping experience, please visit <u>Vast Outdoors</u> (880 Nepean Hwy, Hampton East). Vast Outdoors can also help with gear hire as an agent for One Planet.

Please follow the packing list precisely. Most items are essential pieces of safety equipment and will be used for several years in the core Outdoor Education program, SEA program and optional Recreation camps throughout the your child's time at the college and beyond.

In the future, if your child outgrows any of the approved equipment, we will offer opportunities for re-sale through the St Leonard's College second hand uniform sales.

Please support your child in preparing for what I am sure will be an exciting week, and please contact me at Stuart.walpole@stleonards.vic.edu.au should you have any queries.

Yours sincerely

Mr Stuart Walpole

Outdoor Education Coordinator

