



9 March 2022

Under the Stewardship of Mary Aikenhead Ministries

Dear Year 7 Parents and Carers

Year 7 Camp

Arrival at school: Wednesday 30 March - 8:00am
Return to school: Friday 1 April - 3:00pm

Year 7 will be participating in their first College Camp from Wednesday 30 March - Friday 1 April 2022. The Camp will be facilitated by The Tops Outdoor Education, Stanwell Tops and our students will be travelling to and from the venue by bus.

Year level camps and retreats are an integral part of the curriculum at St Vincent's College, and all students are expected to attend. These camps and retreats are designed to complement the education program and provide students with further opportunities to develop their learning and social skills. These opportunities aim to develop deeper learning, confidence, independence, responsibility and a sense of community within the context of the Ignatian ethos and values of the College. Our outdoor camps develop the learning skills of collaboration and resilience arrived at with persistence and support. **The camp fee is integral to the Learning Resource Fee and we are unable to make refunds for non-attendance.**

The program for the Year 7 Camp focuses on the great potential within your daughters. The Tops provide a three-day educational program focussing on team building and problem solving. Students will be engaging in a variety of activities including giant swings, treeline adventures, archery, 'survivor,' climbing and vertical cluster. These activities will be facilitated by members of staff from The Tops who are trained and accredited in outdoor education. Staff members from the St Vincent's College will also accompany your daughter to all activities. These activities involve some element of risk and are assessed by the outdoor education professionals each time students engage in the activities. Parents and carers can be assured that all camp venues and transport providers have COVID safe plans in place to ensure the health and wellbeing of students and staff.

Mrs Sheenagh Doran, Dean of Early Secondary will be the staff member responsible for the coordination of this Year 7 Camp as well as the Site Coordinator during the camp. She will be well supported by Mr Mitchell Grace, Pastoral Dean of Students and Year 7 Tutors and teachers from each of the six Houses. Students will be allocated into activity groups by Mrs Doran in collaboration with their Tutor teachers. These groups will participate together in the activities throughout the three days on Camp and in the evenings in the conference room.

Students will need to pack carefully for the camp, as there will be activities both during the day and evenings. A suggested 'what to pack' list is attached. Morning tea will be served at 10:00am upon arrival.



Under the Stewardship of Mary Aikenhead Ministries

It is expected that students will respect and honour the usual College Expectations and Student Responsibilities as outlined in their Diary and the attached Student Agreement. Students are not to bring music systems or valuables to Camp. **Under no circumstances is a student to have her phone with her during camp. If you feel she must bring her phone to access upon dismissal on Friday afternoon, she must hand it in to her Teacher Group Leader on Wednesday morning. Please have phones switched off and ready labelled in a plastic zip lock bag.** Students will be supported by staff who will make contact with home if required. **In the event of an emergency at home you may contact Mrs Anne Fry, College Principal, who is accompanying us on Camp 0407 811 006**

Students will need to be at the College by **8:00am on Wednesday 30 March for roll call in the College Hall.** If your daughter is sick on the day, please call College Reception (9368 1611) to leave a message by 7:30am as well as emailing dorans@stvincents.nsw.edu.au. Students will return to College by **3:00pm on Friday 1 April.** If a parent/carer wished to collect a student directly from Stanwell Tops, you may do so; you would need to be at the **Centre by 1.00pm** [click here to view location on the website - Main Carpark](#) and if not there by the time the buses leave your daughter would need to return to school. You must indicate this on the permission note; this information is required for our bus company booking, if this is not indicated your daughter will return to the College. Students will be supervised at the Victoria Street entrance to the College if they are waiting to be picked up.

Please complete the following by Wednesday 16 March:

- 1. Return the attached College Acceptance and Acknowledgment Permission Form**
- 2. Please click on the following link to complete The Tops online: [Year 7 Camp Student Registration & Medical Form](#) ASAP**
- 3. Update your daughter's Emergency Contact details and complete all Medical details via your Edumate Parent Portal. [CLICK HERE FOR INSTRUCTIONS.](#)**
It is essential that you do this to ensure your daughter's safety and our ability to contact you in the event of an emergency.

This letter can be placed somewhere prominent in your home as a reminder of the arrangements for the Camp. We are confident that your daughter will have a very positive and memorable experience on this Camp, and we thank you, as always, for your support of us in the holistic education of your daughter. If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to call the College and speak to Mrs Doran.

Yours sincerely

Mrs Elizabeth Brooks
Deputy Principal

Mrs Sheenagh Doran
Dean of Early Secondary / Year 7 Camp Coordinator
dorans@stvincents.nsw.edu.au

Agreement (Participant) - This section is for the student to complete and sign.

I agree to the following expectations as a participant of this activity:

- *I understand* that at all times I must ensure the safety and comfort of myself, peers and staff.
- *I will* engage positively in all activities, in a spirit of collaboration and learning.
- My personal interactions with others will be respectful and appropriate.
- *I will* accept and follow the directions and advice of the staff/ supervisors at all times. This includes direction given regarding use of and/ or placement of electronic devices and communication.
- *I will not leave* this College activity at any time without direct permission of the staff.
- *I will not be involved* in consuming or providing alcohol, cigarettes, e-cigarettes or any illegal substances. I understand that if I breach this expectation, that my parents will be contacted and that I will be immediately sent home and that further disciplinary action will occur in accordance with College policy.
- *I accept* that my school reserves the right to search bags to ensure no banned substances are brought to this activity.
- *I understand* that, if necessary, a full report of my behaviour will be given to the College Principal.

Student Name: _____ Student Signature: _____

Date: _____

Acceptance/Acknowledgement of Risk - This section is for the parent/carer to complete and sign.

I give permission for my daughter _____ (first and last name) to attend the Year 7 Camp at 'The Tops Outdoor Education', Stanwell Tops from Wednesday 30 - Friday 1 April 2022.

Please ensure you have completed The Tops online: [Year 7 Camp Student Registration & Medical Form](#)

Your daughter will return to the College on Friday 1 April at approx. 3:15pm unless you have indicated an alternative pick up option below:

☐ I, parent/carer will pick up my daughter directly from Stanwell Tops, Main Carpark at 1pm on Friday 1 April.

OR

☐ I authorise another Year 7 parent/carer (name:) to pick up my daughter directly from Stanwell Tops, Main Carpark at 1pm on Friday 1 April.

In the event of a medical emergency, I give consent for the College staff or staff at the sites we visit to administer first aid and seek medical attention, as necessary. In such a scenario I authorise the staff to convey my child to the hospital by appropriate transport, which may be an ambulance. *The participant acknowledges that there is a risk of injury to the participant and/or a risk of an adverse effect to any current or past medical condition of the participant. The participant acknowledges and agrees that the participant accepts that the participant engages in activities on the site at the risk of the participant. The participant gives the College authority, where circumstances deem it necessary, to obtain medical and ambulance assistance for the participant in the case of the participant suffering injury or ill health while on the site.*

Parents/Carers contact information and Student Medical details are held by the College as received from parents/carers. I have responsibility for updating my contact information and my daughter's dietary requirements and medical details, (providing current medications) if applicable by updating student details via the Edumate Parent Portal – [CLICK HERE](#).

I give permission for staff to administer Panadol, Nurofen, Antihistamine.

Parent/Carer Name: _____ Parent /Carer Signature: _____

Date: _____

What Do I Bring?

This is not intended to be a comprehensive list of everything you could possibly need. If in doubt, remember, it's better to have it and not need it than to need it and not have it!

Everyone coming to The Tops needs:

- Wet weather gear / raincoat
- Personal Medication
- Hat
- Jumper and / or Jacket
- Sunscreen
- Covered shoes (thongs & sandals are not recommended for outdoor use on site)
- Insect Repellent

Additional needs for those staying overnight:

- Linen: 1 base sheet + (i) sleeping bag or (ii) 1 top sheet and doona, pillow & pillowcase. Linen hire is available by prior arrangement
- Toiletries
- Bath Towel
- Sleep Wear
- Underwear
- Change of clothes for each day
- Socks

Additional needs for those participating in Activities:

- Extra pair of covered shoes
- Water bottle. Available to purchase by prior arrangement or during office hours
- Full length tops / shirts. Short tops and singlets are not suitable for activities, especially those involving harnesses
- Short pants. Not too short, especially for harnessed activities

Note: Outdoor activities may result in damage/ soiling of clothing. Please ensure clothing is suitable for outdoor recreational use. It is advised that these items (+ hat) are packed into your day pack, ready to go.

Extra stuff you might need:

- Day pack (for bush walking and carrying gear to activities)
- Garbage bag to take wet/ dirty clothes home in
- Torch