



# SILVERBAND LODGE ACTIVITY PLAN

## BUSHWALKING

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*This document has been prepared with reference to the Department of Education and Training Victoria 'Safety Guidelines for Education Outdoors' and the Australian Adventure Activity Standards. These were accessed online [here](#) and [here](#) at the date of the most recent update.*

In consultation with user groups, Silverband Lodge designs and delivers a broad range of experiential learning programs at Silverband Lodge sites and beyond.

From self-led on site activities, to multi day adventure expeditions, Silverband Lodge staff will assist in program design and delivery for all ages and abilities.

Programs are designed in response to the desired outcomes of each user group and will always be appropriate to the age, skills and experience of attending participants.

Program design will sequence activities to provide the best possible outcome and each activity offered in the program will be conducted in accordance with the following activity plan.

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## 1. EDUCATIONAL PURPOSE

Bushwalking is an activity that offers individuals mental and physical challenges. It also provides the opportunity for team development.

The aims of the bushwalking experience are to;

- Allow participants to experience the local environment
- See variations of bushland
- Extend personal boundaries
- Care for fellow participants
- Become familiar with minimal impact practices
- Achieve desired goal
- See some great views



### Overnight Bushwalks

Before and during an overnight bushwalk, participants may also develop:

- Skills in pitching a tent (including awareness of and responsiveness to overhead hazards)
- Basic First Aid
- An understanding of camp practices including hygiene, responding to weather conditions and protection of the natural environment.
- Participants will also undergo navigation training suitable for the location and activity.
- Participants are asked only to carry their day pack with suitable supplies for the duration of the walk.

## ACTIVITY OUTLINE AND METHOD

Bushwalking can be either teacher/group leader led or Silverband Lodge Instructed. Bushwalks will usually be run in either half day or full day sessions.

- Staff will meet with their group in the designated area. Collect maps or track notes from Silverband Lodge staff.
- Spend 5-10 minutes telling your group about the walk, what to expect, what to look out for.
- Encourage students to use track notes to enhance their experience.
- Each walk will take varying times depending on group's ability and experience. Aim to walk half way in half of the allocated time for the session. Spend some time at the peak of your walk.
- Your return walk should take less than the time you spent walk up. Allow enough time to walk down and arrive back on site for lunch/dinner or the next activity.
- Finish your walk with a quick discussion on what the group saw and what they liked.

### Overnight Bushwalks

- Groups will pack their required personal clothing and equipment into a large plastic bag.
- Students will carry a daypack with the required equipment for the day walk.
- All equipment will be driven out to the campsite by Silverband Lodge staff.
- Students will be expected to set up and pack down their own tents, however all other equipment will be set up.
- On completion of the campout, groups will be expected to tidy the campsite and leave it in an orderly fashion

## 2. ENVIRONMENT

Silverband Lodge conducts Bushwalking in a number of locations. All Silverband Lodge bushwalking instructors have prior knowledge and experience of the local and surrounding area and are aware of the following information.

### LOCATION

Bushwalking is conducted at several locations in the Grampians National Park;

Location	Distance	Duration	Grade	Facilities	Mobile Coverage
Boronia Peak	6.5km return (Start and Finish at Campsite)	2 - 3hrs	Medium	No	Yes
Pinnacle Walk	4.2km (Start and Finish @ Wonderland Carpark)	2 - 2.5hrs	Medium	Yes (at carpark)	Yes
Pinnacle Loop Walk	12.5km return (Start and Finish at Campsite)	5 - 6.5hrs	Medium	No	Yes
Mt Rosea to Borough huts	12km from Rosea CP	5-6 hrs	Medium	Yes (at campsite)	Patchy during walk not at site
Pines Walk	11Km from campsite	3-4hrs	Easy	Yes (at campsite)	Yes
Clematis Falls	3.5km (Start and Finish at Campsite)	1.5hrs	Medium	No	Yes
Chataqua Peak Walk	6.5km (Start and Finish at Campsite)	2 – 3hrs	Medium	No	

Bushwalks are undertaken on minor roads and tracks in a diverse range of environments. The tracks chosen are approved Parks Victoria Bushwalking tracks, none of which are remote. All walks are on designated, well-marked tracks that are maintained and sign posted by Parks Victoria.

The group's prior experience and current abilities will determine the bushwalk location. Time taken to complete walks will vary, depending on group size and current ability.

Prior to any bushwalk taking place Silverband Lodge staff will be aware of current conditions of the track. Any permits or notification to management will be made by Silverband Lodge.

In the case that groups are self-guiding it is the responsibility of the group representative to ensure that they are thoroughly familiar with and understand the information within this document.

### **Overnight Bushwalks**

The overnight bushwalks will be conducted in such a way that the group will arrive at the camp before dark, with sufficient energy to make camp.

### **COMMUNICATION**

In the case of an emergency or extreme weather conditions, these walks provide a high level of access to communications and external assistance if required. There may be limited service in some locations but will always be able to reach Emergency Services.

In the case of an incident on a bushwalk, Silverband Lodge site based staff will be notified to assist as needed. Silverband Lodge staff will always be contactable via telephone communication and further available for situations requiring a vehicle.

### **WEATHER**

Bushwalking can be conducted all year round. The weather forecast and conditions will be assessed in preparation for each bushwalk and closely monitored throughout the duration.

Variable weather conditions are possible through all seasons. Bushwalking is a weather dependent activity and therefore on days of extreme temperatures, very wet/cold or lightning conditions the may be cancelled, modified or relocated at any time. It will be the responsibility of the Bushwalking Guide to use his/her professional judgment to make this call.

On days of total fire ban bushwalking will not be conducted in the National Park and alternate arrangements will be made.

### **TRANSPORTATION**

In the case that Silverband Lodge will be transporting participants, transportation will adhere to the DET Vic. Guidelines and regulations.

### 3. ACTIVITY

Bushwalking refers to walking or hiking in a diverse range of outdoor environments. Bushwalking may take place during a single day or involve overnight camping. Where roads and tracks are in relatively undisturbed areas, they offer the opportunity to observe unique flora and fauna. These areas are sensitive and require sensitive use and management.

#### STUDENT SKILLS

Regardless of prior experience an activity briefing will be conducted with each group to provide participants with the following information.

- Identify the role of the instructor.
- Brief participants about the nature and purpose of the activity, the natural environment, and appropriate safety procedures
- Expectation of participants to act responsibly towards other participants, the public, the environment and for safety reasons.
- Essential equipment and clothing suitable to weather conditions
- Personal safety including sun protection and hydration
- Known hazards (ie. Cliffs, steep ground)
- Protection of the natural environment and wildlife and minimal impact practices.
- Hygiene
- Navigation techniques suitable to the location and activity
- Sufficient information for participants to act in the case of emergency.

Before departure, the group should be taught that if at any time they become separated from the group they should:

#### **STOP, STAY PUT, CALL OUT, DON'T MOVE**

Individuals may be restricted in their participation if their behavior threatens the welfare or safety of others. Teachers/group leaders are responsible for assessing the ability of students to complete the activity.

Participants will be given the opportunity to ask questions.

#### EQUIPMENT

Equipment used for Bushwalking will be checked prior to the activity to ensure items are in good condition and suitable for the Bushwalk.

Equipment appropriate for walks not longer than one day:

- Food and water suitable for the length/nature of the walk, including emergency options
- Maps/walk guide suitable for the activity.

#### **Overnight Bushwalk**

Equipment appropriate for overnight or extended bushwalks would in general, include the above items as well as a sleeping bag, torch and personal toiletries.

Equipment for overnight bushwalks supplied by Silverband Lodge will include the following:

- Tents
- Sleeping mats
- Catering equipment & provisions
- Water
- Maps

It is the responsibility of the Bushwalking Instructor to

- Check first aid equipment prior to activity
- Check communication equipment prior to activity
- Check the suitability of clothing and equipment used by participants

## **FIRST AID KITS**

Silverband Lodge Bushwalking Instructors will maintain an appropriate First Aid qualification from a recognized training organization and carry first aid kits at all times. Additionally each group is required to supply their own first aid kit.

## **CLOTHING**

Clothing is the individual's primary protection against severe and variable weather conditions. Clothing should be appropriate to the weather and offer good sun protection or protection against wet weather.

While clothing is weather dependent when participating in bushwalking, participants will;

- Wear footwear that is comfortable, well broken-in and in good repair. Appropriate for level on terrain.
- Have rainwear suitable for the activity and location
- Use sun protection – hats & sun screen

## **IDENTIFICATION**

It is the responsibility of the user group to manage the group effectively ensuring all participants are accounted for at all times.



## 4. PEOPLE

### STAFF

A minimum of two staff members must be present for this activity, one with responsibility for activity instruction and the other able to assist the instructor. While at least one staff member must be a representative from the school, it is acceptable for both staff members to be representatives from the school. In the case that there is no Silverband Lodge staff member present, it is the responsibility of the group to have read, understood and supply appropriately qualified and experienced staff to accompany the Bushwalk.

Bushwalking instructors used by Silverband Lodge maintain current Working With Children's Checks.

#### School Representative

As per the DET Vic.oE Safety Guidelines, a registered teacher or school representative must be present at the activity at all times. In the event that a teacher/group representative is unavailable to be on the bushwalk, the activity will be cancelled and schools / groups will be liable for any associated costs.

While Bushwalking Instructors have the technical knowledge and expertise to instruct the students, the teacher/school representative has overall responsibility for the safety and welfare of the students. The teacher/group representative will act on the advice of the Bushwalking Instructor regarding technical safety issues.

It is the responsibility of the accompanying teacher/school representative to read this document to familiarise themselves with the activity at hand and their responsibilities.

### TEACHER/GROUP LEADER BRIEFING

In the case that the school is self-guiding their bushwalk sessions school staff must be available prior to the activity for approximately 20 minutes for an in service briefing from Silverband Lodge. The briefing may happen with all staff together or school staff may be asked to pass information on to other staff also facilitating the bushwalk.

- Take breaks regularly.
- Encourage water intake.
- Ensure students have correct gear – 2L water bottle, good shoes, rain jacket/sunhat and sunscreen.
- Set the pace so the group will stay together.
- Students must stop and meet up at each intersection or road crossing.
- One teacher/group leader should walk towards the front of the group and one at the back.
- Designate a student leader and student tail end Charlie to keep the group together.
- The group should leave and return together.
- Conduct head checks before, during and on return of bushwalk.

Participants will be given the opportunity to ask questions.

#### Overnight Hikes

- Silverband Lodge staff to lead overnight hikes with at least 1 school teacher/group leader.
- All group equipment, food and tents will be supplied by Silverband Lodge where organized with school.

## **EXPERIENCE AND QUALIFICATIONS**

As a minimum all Bushwalking Instructors will hold the following unit of competency from the Sport, Fitness and Recreation Training Package July 2019 or demonstrate equivalent experience equivalent:

Easy Terrain

Guide bushwalks in a controlled environment (SISOBWG303A)

Intermediate Terrain

Guide intermediate bushwalks (SISOBWG405A)

This will ensure they are:

- Able to lead bushwalking in variable conditions
- Be responsible for conducting the activity on-the-ground without external supervision
- Confident of their own ability and fitness to manage the activity
- Capable of providing support to participants
- Managing groups in outdoor settings

The Bushwalking Instructor must also have the capacity to assist group members as needed, especially with emergency response procedures.

## **Responsibility of the Bushwalking Instructor**

The Bushwalking Instructor will also be responsible for the following;

- Instructing the activity in a safe manner
- Check communication and first aid equipment prior to activity
- Monitoring the welfare and fitness of participants
- Confirm weather conditions prior to the activity
- Ensuring safety procedures are clearly communicated to participants
- Undertake a head count prior to, during and after the activity
- Check the suitability of participants clothing and equipment
- Record near miss incidents and accidents and submit them to Silverband Lodge.
- Ensure all documentation has been completed and collated
- Ensure the session is conducted in a safe manner
- Inform Assisting Instructor of their roles in the behavior, supervision and instructions of participants.
- Brief accompanying teacher / group leader / assisting instructor of what procedures to follow should the lead instructor become incapacitated for any reason.

## **Responsibility of Assisting Instructor**

The assisting instructor of the activity will generally not be required to have the same skill level as the leader. The assisting instructor will carry out tasks as directed by the Bushwalking Instructor which may include monitoring the welfare and fitness of participants, assisting the bushwalking instructor, first aid responsibility, the supervision and behavior of participants and adhering to safety instructions.

**Assistant to the Instructor** (may be the teacher/group representative) and must;

- Have experience in the activity at the level being offered to students
- Be confident in their ability and fitness to manage the activity
- Must have experience in supervising groups
- Be able to assume a supervisory role during the activity
- Have the ability to participate competently in emergency response procedures
- Have conferred with the instructor to establish the emergency response and supervision responsibilities.

## **SUPERVISION**

Supervision is a critical factor in managing risk in the outdoors.

A minimum of two staff must be present for bushwalking. One staff member will be required to have the above qualifications as the Bushwalking Instructor and one Assisting Instructor, who may be a staff representative of the school.

The minimum supervision ratio will be:

<b>Bushwalking (day walks)</b>	
Staff numbers	Student numbers
2	1–20
3	21–30

  

<b>Bushwalking (overnight walks)</b>	
Staff numbers	Student numbers
2	1–12
3	13–18

The allocation of staff should be based on:

- age, maturity and gender of students
- ability and experience of students
- individual needs
- group dynamics of the student group
- experience, qualifications and skills of staff
- location conditions.

The teacher/group leader in charge is responsible for the supervision strategy that must be endorsed by the school council as part of the excursion approval process. Staff members will supervise students according to that strategy.

In the case that Silverband Lodge are not guiding the activity and a decision is made to vary the recommended allocation of supervising staff, Silverband Lodge will not be held responsible for any incidents which occur directly related to that decision.

## **INFORMED CONSENT**

Schools / Groups are responsible for obtaining informed consent from parents/guardians of students prior to the activity. A list of participants, medical forms and parental authority should accompany the teacher/group representative to the activity.

## **FIRST AID**

The group will have a quickly accessible and contactable Group Leader / School Representative on site with a minimum of the following current (within 3 years) first aid qualification or equivalent:

HLTAID011 Provide First Aid

and a current (updated within 12 months) Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation (CPR) qualification or equivalent:

HLTAID009 Provide Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation

Group/school representatives will be responsible for all student medical forms and for ensuring medical forms and any medications are taken to activity venues.

A first aid kit will be located on site. Additionally, each group is required to supply their own first aid kit. Silverband Lodge and contracted staff with first aid training will administer first aid under the following circumstances:

- In an emergency situation
- If the designated group/school representative is unable
- If the group's designated first aider cannot be located or in difficulty

All staff / group members with known medical conditions that might compromise the group's risk management plan should make accompanying staff aware of this condition. Be aware that issues of confidentiality will be involved in any such disclosure.

## 5. RISKS

### RISK ASSESSMENT

A detailed risk assessment is conducted of this activity, which is attached to this document and reviewed annually, or as required.

### HOW TO

Where applicable, the relevant 'How To' should be read in conjunction with this Activity Plan.

### EMERGENCY STRATEGY

On arrival groups will be provided with a copy of the Silverband Lodge Emergency Management Plan.

- Mobile phone communication is available at all sites. Emergency vehicle available at all times.
- Participant names, addresses, details, permission forms, medical forms are held by teacher / group leader at activity site
- Any special medical issues are known by teacher/group leader and any students with potential medical conditions are monitored during the activity
- Bushwalking is weather dependent and therefore in periods of extreme temperatures or periods of lightning the activity will not take place.
- Students not participating in bushwalking will be required to stay at camp and schools / groups will be required to arrange for a staff member to be at the camp site with the non- participating student/s.
- A school representative will need to participate in the activity. In the event that a school representative declines to be at the activity will be cancelled and schools / group will be liable for any associated costs.
- A person will be nominated to monitor the behaviour of students during the activity.
- All teachers / group representatives / assistants to the instructor will be briefed on the emergency strategy and supervision responsibilities should the lead instructor become incapacitated for any reason. This person would be expected to seek appropriate assistance if required.



## RISK ASSESSMENT - BUSHWALKING, OVERNIGHT CAMPS AND JOURNEY PROGRAMS

The list below incorporates some of the risks associated with bushwalking.

*Please note: the list below is not all encompassing, and some associated risks may not have been identified.*

Risk Description	Existing Controls	Rating		
		Effectiveness of existing controls	Risk Consequences	Risk Likelihood
Individuals have poor fitness, wander off track, go to the toilet at night, or become fatigued leading to becoming separated from the group and/or lost or injured.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Group leaders will ensure group remains together by setting a leader at the front and a leader at the back. The two leaders must maintain a contactable distance and no group member is to be ahead of or behind the two leaders respectively. Group leaders will ensure an appropriate pace is set for all group members, rest stops are regular and head counts are conducted.</li><li>Ensure “re-group” after difficult terrain, poor visibility or where the route is uncertain.</li><li>Activity briefing will include appropriate strategies for staff and participants should they become lost or separated from the group including night procedures for toilet visits. Procedures in Emergency Management Plan to be followed.</li><li>All group leaders to carry adequate hiking and location maps.</li><li>Relevant Licensed Tour Operator Permits etc obtained from Parks Victoria</li></ul>	<b>Satisfactory</b>	<b>Moderate</b>	<b>Likely</b>
Staff or participant falls on steep or rocky terrain, causing soft tissue or skeletal injury.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Participant skills and experience will be considered to ensure the route chosen is suitable for the group.</li><li>Suitable footwear will be explained prior to activity. (Detailed equipment/clothing list will be supplied.)</li><li>If steep and/or rocky terrain is expected, staff must prepare students for this type of environment.</li><li>In this terrain, staff should position themselves to reduce participant exposure to risk.</li><li>Staff will ensure students travel at a pace suitable for all group members. Throughout the activity, staff will monitor students and consider changing the route or walking style if required.</li></ul>	<b>Satisfactory</b>	<b>Moderate</b>	<b>Unlikely</b>
Exposure to extreme weather conditions (including wet, cold and windy or heat and sun) causing discomfort and potentially leading to illness such as hypothermia, hyperthermia, extreme	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Review weather conditions prior to activity</li><li>Monitor temperature and shorten, relocate or adjust activity as required</li><li>Participants will be expected to carry a minimum of 1 litre of water during the activity.</li><li>Ensure sufficient water is provided for the activity and participants are briefed on general strategies to stay hydrated.</li><li>Ensure appropriate, adequate clothing and protection against elements is worn before and during activity</li><li>Seek sheltered areas for rest stops.</li><li>Observe participant's condition during activity.</li><li>Consideration of wind chill factor if wind is present</li></ul>	<b>Satisfactory</b>	<b>Moderate</b>	<b>Likely</b>



## RISK ASSESSMENT - BUSHWALKING, OVERNIGHT CAMPS AND JOURNEY PROGRAMS

Risk Description	Existing Controls	Rating		
		Effectiveness of existing controls	Risk Consequences	Risk Likelihood
sun burn, heat exhaustion or heat stroke.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Cancel activity if conditions are such that activity cannot be conducted safely and participation will place participants in extreme danger.</li><li>Fire danger rating system will be monitored and actioned as per the Silverband response protocols.</li><li>If participant clothing is inadequate for conditions, then they may not be able to participate in the activity. In this event arrangements will be made after discussion with the group coordinator.</li></ul>			
A tree branch or tree falls on a participant or staff member due to high winds or stormy conditions, either on a bush walk or overnight campout.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>If there is strong wind during a walk, staff will consider altering the route or cancelling the walk to avoid the danger of falling timber.</li><li>During breaks, care will be taken to examine the surrounding trees and consider the appropriateness of selected rest spot.</li><li>On overnight campouts, sites will be assessed for potential dangers and tent site selection will be discussed with participants to ensure appropriate site selection is made.</li><li>On days of high winds or storms, camp sites will be carefully considered for dangers. The activity may be relocated, altered or cancelled.</li></ul>	Satisfactory	Major	Unlikely
A group is caught in a bushfire and faces the danger of equipment damage and/or personal injury or death.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Activity planning will include consideration of the possible fire risk and potential to allow for last-minute change in the event of severe fire danger.</li><li>Fires and open fire places will be used in accordance with the requirements of the fire and/or land management authorities.</li><li>Participants will be briefed on the safe positioning and use of fuel stoves and alerted to the risks associated with open flames in a bush setting.</li><li>The communication with site staff will ensure that the group is alerted of a potential Total Fire Ban or other relevant information.</li><li>In addition, group leaders will consider prevailing local conditions and adjust the activity accordingly. Altering the route, evacuation, changing location or cancellation of the activity.</li><li>Silverband staff will advise of appropriate action for activity (relocate, alter or cancel).</li></ul>	Satisfactory	Major	Rare
A student or staff sustains a burn from incorrect or unsafe use of a fuel, camping stove (e.g., 'Trangia' or other fuel stove) or camp fire.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>All participants will be briefed on the correct and safe use of cooking stove.</li><li>Whilst cooking safe management practices will be put into place.</li><li>Students must be monitored by a staff member to ensure that safe practices are being followed.</li><li>There will be access to water during cooking</li><li>At least one group leader will have relevant first aid materials at hand and experience to deal with potential burn.</li></ul>	Satisfactory	Moderate	Unlikely



## RISK ASSESSMENT - BUSHWALKING, OVERNIGHT CAMPS AND JOURNEY PROGRAMS

Risk Description	Existing Controls	Rating		
		Effectiveness of existing controls	Risk Consequences	Risk Likelihood
A student or staff member experiences an illness or allergic reaction during the activity due to unsafe food or drink or poor hygiene.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Group leaders will be aware that illness may affect energy levels and the activity will include options to allow for illness.</li><li>Group leaders will be aware of group member food allergies and carry current, confidential medical details for each student and any medications will be accessible.</li><li>Group leaders will be aware of food safety including safe food storage practices, as per our policies and procedures.</li><li>Group leaders will ensure safe water sources are available for the group. Students will be advised not to share water bottles, cutlery and cups to reduce the risk of cross infection.</li><li>Appropriate hand washing systems will be made available and staff will ensure participants are aware of good hygiene practices, including hand washing before touching food and after toileting</li></ul>	<b>Satisfactory</b>	<b>Major</b>	<b>Unlikely</b>
A pre-existing medical condition e.g. Asthma, results in injury or illness during activity.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Group leaders will collect and review current confidential medical information for all students and staff.</li><li>Medical information will be reviewed to ensure that no illness will affect any participant's safety or impact on the ability of the affected student.</li><li>At least one staff member will have a minimum of a level 2 first aid qualification and carry a first aid kit appropriate to the activity and the environments to be encountered.</li><li>Medical information and medications will be carried by staff attending the activity.</li><li>Communications will be accessible at all times.</li></ul>	<b>Satisfactory</b>	<b>Moderate</b>	<b>Rare</b>
Clothing or equipment is inappropriate or damaged and causes the potential for injury or exposure to the elements.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>All participant and group equipment will be checked prior to activity commencing to ensure appropriate and of high standard.</li><li>Participants or groups who do not bring recommended personal clothing and equipment may have the program altered or cancelled.</li><li>On days of extreme weather conditions staff may choose to carry extra clothing or sun protection for participant use in case</li><li>An equipment and clothing list should be distributed and explained to all participants prior to attending camp.</li></ul>	<b>Satisfactory</b>	<b>Minor</b>	<b>Unlikely</b>
An unexpected change in weather causes a group to be caught in severe weather or a thunderstorm.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>The chosen venue, activity and season will be appropriate to the group.</li><li>Group leaders will monitor weather conditions and if necessary adjust the activity accordingly.</li><li>If severe weather is experienced before or during the activity and threatens the safety of participants, the activity will be modified, relocated or cancelled.</li><li>Group leaders will consider exposure to tree and lightning hazards.</li></ul>	<b>Satisfactory</b>	<b>Moderate</b>	<b>Unlikely</b>



## RISK ASSESSMENT - BUSHWALKING, OVERNIGHT CAMPS AND JOURNEY PROGRAMS

<b>Risk Description</b>	<b>Existing Controls</b>	<b>Rating</b>		
		<b>Effectiveness of existing controls</b>	<b>Risk Consequences</b>	<b>Risk Likelihood</b>
Participant or staff member is stung or bitten by ant, bee, spider etc, and leading to swelling or anaphylactic reaction.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Ensure staff are aware of any allergies, specifically anaphylactic students.</li><li>Medications should be carried at all times in close proximity to participant.</li><li>Evacuation procedure should be well known by Group leaders as per the Emergency Management Plan.</li><li>Communications will be carried and available at all times.</li></ul>	<b>Satisfactory</b>	<b>Major</b>	<b>Unlikely</b>
Participant or staff member is bitten by a snake leading to personal illness, injury or death.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Participants are briefed on how to reduce the likelihood of exposure to snakes during site brief at the beginning of camp</li><li>Participants are reminded of what to do in the event of a snake sighting immediately prior to the start of the activity.</li><li>Long pants or gaiters may be requested to be worn during warmer months or if the risk is considered to be high.</li><li>Group leaders will carry a snake bite kit and have the relevant knowledge and training in what to do in the event of a snake bite.</li><li>The group leader acting as the leader at the front of the group will be vigilant and actively be on the lookout for snakes. The staff member will take necessary actions to ensure the groups safety if a snake is believed to be in the vicinity.</li></ul>	<b>Satisfactory</b>	<b>Major</b>	<b>Rare</b>
Participant misbehaves causing potential danger to themselves and/or the entire group.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Participants are briefed and made aware of potential dangers within the environment.</li><li>Behavioural expectations of participants are fully explained.</li><li>Teachers/assisting leaders to assist as per camp supervision protocols.</li><li>In the event of no support, or behaviour that endangers the group, cancellation of the activity</li><li>In the case that behaviour creates a situation where anyone is put in a potentially dangerous situation, the activity will be cancelled.</li><li>The Silverband staff member will be responsible for deciding if circumstances are such that the activity cannot be conducted in a safe manner.</li></ul>	<b>Satisfactory</b>	<b>Moderate</b>	<b>Unlikely</b>



## RISK ASSESSMENT - BUSHWALKING, OVERNIGHT CAMPS AND JOURNEY PROGRAMS

### Site Assessment:

Silverband Lodge conducts Bushwalking in a number of locations. All Silverband Lodge bushwalking instructors have prior knowledge and experience of the local and surrounding area and are aware of the following information

Location	Distance	Duration	Grade	Facilities	Mobile Coverage
Boronia Peak	6.5km return (Start and Finish at Campsite)	2 - 3hrs	Medium	No	Yes
Pinnacle Walk	4.2km (Start and Finish @ Wonderland Carpark)	2 - 2.5hrs	Medium	Yes (at carpark)	Yes
Venus Baths Walk	3.5km return (Start and Finish at Campsite)	1.5 – 2hrs	Easy	Yes	Yes
Borough Huts Walk	10km from campsite	2.5 – 3.5hrs	Medium	Yes (at campsite)	Patchy during walk not at site
Pines Walk	11Km from campsite	3-4hrs	Easy	Yes (at campsite)	Yes
Clematis Falls	3.5km (Start and Finish at Campsite)	1.5hrs	Medium	No	Yes
Chatauqua Peak Walk	6.5km (Start and Finish at Campsite)	2 – 3hrs	Medium	No	



## RISK ASSESSMENT - BUSHWALKING, OVERNIGHT CAMPS AND JOURNEY PROGRAMS

Bushwalks are undertaken on minor roads and tracks in a diverse range of environments. The tracks chosen are approved Parks Victoria Bushwalking tracks, none of which are remote. All walks are on designated, well-marked tracks that are maintained and sign posted by Parks Victoria.

The group's prior experience and current abilities will determine the bushwalk location. Time taken to complete walks will vary, depending on group size and current ability.

Prior to any bushwalk taking place Silverband Lodge staff will be aware of current conditions of the track.

In the case that groups are self-guiding it is the responsibility of the group representative to ensure that they are thoroughly familiar with and understand the information within this document.

In the case of an emergency or extreme weather conditions, these walks provide a high level of access to communications and external assistance if required. There may be limited service in some locations but will always be able to reach Emergency Services.

In the case of an incident on a bushwalk, Silverband Lodge site based staff will be notified to assist as needed. Silverband Lodge staff will always be contactable via telephone communication and further available for situations requiring a vehicle.