Blackwood Special Schools Outdoor Education Centre Inc.

**BUSH COOKING**

**THIS ACTIVITY CANNOT BE CONDUCTED ON DAYS of TOTAL FIRE BAN or DURING DAYS of EXTREME FIRE CONDITIONS**

**Bush Cooking Locations**
- Blackwood Special Schools Outdoor Education Centre Inc. Bush Cooking Activity Site
- The Tent Shelter Accommodation Site Outdoor / Indoor Campfire
- The School Accommodation Site Outdoor Campfire
- The Residence Accommodation Site Outdoor Campfire
- Wombat State Forest
- Lerderderg State Forest

**Bush Cooking Descriptions**

- Bush Cooking is an activity where the students are required to cook their chosen recipes on an open fire.
- Students are required to prepare the ingredients for cooking.
- It is the Group Leaders decision as to whether the act of lighting the fire is to be completed by the students as part of the overall Bush Cooking Activity Experience.
- Students are responsible for extinguishing the fire at the end of the activity:
  - The fire will NOT be classified as extinguished until the students can safely place their hands into the coals and hold the coals.

**Age Suitability**
- All ages.

**Staff Ratio**

*(Remember Blackwood Special Schools Outdoor Education Centre Inc. Staff cannot be considered as part of your Staff : Student Ratio at any stage during your Blackwood Experience.)*

- 1:8 - leaders/teachers/adults to campers (a minimum of 2 Visiting Staff must accompany any Bush Cook)

**Blackwood Special Schools Outdoor Education Centre Inc. Staff Experience**

- To ensure the Activity is appropriate for the age, ability & experience of the visiting students.
- To safely & confidently implement the Bush Cooking Activity.
- Take responsibility for the technical and related safety of participants engaged in the activity.
- Confirming Weather conditions with Group Leaders prior to preparing the Bush Cooking Activity.
- Briefing participants about the nature and purpose of the activity, about potential hazards and appropriate safety procedures and instructions to be followed.
- Risk Management & Emergency Procedures
- All other Logistical requirements for implementing Bush Cooking at the Centre

**Group Leaders Experience**

- Must have previous experience in supervising groups in outdoor recreation activities.
Student Participant Experience

- Ability & Willingness to safely move about a Campfire Site.
- Awareness of others and safety guidelines relating to the Bush Cooking Activity.

Blackwood Special Schools Outdoor Education Centre Inc. Responsibilities

- To ensure the selected Bush Cooking Site is appropriate for the age, ability & experience of the visiting students.
- To safely & confidently implement the Bush Cooking Activity.
- Take responsibility for the technical and related safety of participants engaged in the activity.
- Confirming Weather conditions with Group Leaders prior to preparing for the Bush Cooking Activity.
- Briefing participants about the nature and purpose of the activity, about potential hazards and appropriate safety procedures and instructions to be followed.

Group Leaders Responsibilities

- **GROUP LEADERS ARE FULLY RESPONSIBLE FOR PROVIDING ALL BUSH COOKING INGREDIENTS**
  - The Group Leader will be responsible for the supervision and behaviour of campers on the activity, at all times and for first aid.
  - Assessing first aid requirements, identifying campers at risk
    - e.g. asthma and appointing the first aider
  - Informing other Visiting Staff of their roles in the behaviour, supervision and instruction of campers.
  - Monitoring the welfare and fitness of Campers and other Visiting Staff.
  - Checking the suitability of clothing and equipment carried by Campers and other Visiting Staff.
  - Undertaking a head count prior to, during and after the Bush Cooking Activity.
  - Implementing sun safe strategies for all Campers & Visiting Staff.
  - Recording all incidents – including near misses – on the Incident Notification Form and / or patient Care Report and advising the Blackwood Special Schools Outdoor Education Centre inc. Staff and their School Principals.
  - Assuming all Blackwood Special Schools Outdoor Education Centre Inc. Staff Responsibilities – as listed above – if leading the Activity without Blackwood Special Schools Outdoor Education Centre Inc. Staff support.

Visiting Staff Responsibilities

- To carry out tasks as directed by the Group Leader and / or Blackwood Special Schools Outdoor Education Centre Inc. Staff.
- These may include – but are not limited to:–
  - Monitoring the welfare and fitness of campers;
  - Assisting the Group Leader and Blackwood Special Schools Outdoor Education Centre Inc. Staff;
  - First aid responsibility;
  - The supervision and behaviour of campers;
  - Adhering to the safety rules.

Participant Responsibilities

- Adhering to the safety rules and directions of:-
  - Blackwood Special Schools Outdoor Education Centre Inc. Staff
  - Group Leader
  - Visiting Staff
Safety Equipment, Inventory & Clothing Requirements

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Blackwood Staff</th>
<th>Group Leader</th>
<th>Visiting Staff</th>
<th>Participants</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>☉ Matches</td>
<td>☉ 1st Aid Kit</td>
<td>☉ Sunscreen</td>
<td>☉ 1st Aid Kit</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>☉ Paper</td>
<td>☉ All Medical Details</td>
<td>☉ Ingredients</td>
<td>☉ Appropriate Clothing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>☉ Buckets of Water</td>
<td>☉ Water</td>
<td>☉ Water</td>
<td>☉ Water</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>☉ Cooking &amp; Eating Tools</td>
<td>☉ Appropriate Clothing</td>
<td>☉ Appropriate Clothing</td>
<td>☉ Solid Footwear</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Everyone should wear solid footwear at all times e.g. sandshoes/runners - Thongs, Sandals & Gumboots are NOT appropriate.

First Aid Requirements

☉ The Group Leader MUST carry a first aid kit at all times.
☉ There MUST be a qualified first aider within the visiting staff - not necessarily the Group Leader.
☉ Insect repellent and stingoes is a good idea.

Safety Briefing & Emergency Response

☉ DO NOT run around the Campfire Bush Cooking Site
☉ DO NOT run when collecting wood & sticks for your Bush Cooking Fire
☉ DO NOT step over the Bush Cooking Fire
☉ Bush Cooking is a slow Activity that requires patience and persistence
☉ Demonstrate to the students how to light a match
☉ If students are lighting the fire they are only given one match per student to light the fire
☉ Once the fire is alight the unused matches are collected from the students
☉ Students are responsible for extinguishing the fire
☉ The fire will NOT be classified as extinguished until the students can safely place their hands into the coals and hold the coals
☉ Students are responsible for cleaning all the Bush Cooking Equipment at the end of the Activity
☉ IF THERE IS AN EMERGENCY SITUATION EVERYONE MUST STOP AND FOLLOW THE DIRECTIONS OF BLACKWOOD SPECIAL SCHOOLS OUTDOOR EDUCATION CENTRE Inc. STAFF / GROUP LEADER / EMERGENCY SERVICES

Activity Notes

☉ Anyone Leading the Bush Cooking Activity through Blackwood Special Schools Outdoor Education Centre Inc MUST BE:-
☉ Familiar with the Bush Cooking Activity
☉ Familiar with the Bush Cooking Safety Briefing
☉ Familiar with Emergency & Risk Management Plans
☉ Currently 1st Aid Level 2 Qualified
☉ Everyone MUST BE checked to ensure they have appropriate gear for the Bush Cooking Activity
☉ Issue Wet Weather Jackets - if required
☉ Constantly check the health and wellbeing of all members of the group throughout the walk

Environmental Considerations

☉ Groups MUST implement Minimal Impact throughout the Bush Cooking Activity
☉ These include but are not limited to:-
☉ Don’t burn or bury rubbish
☉ If you carried it in, you carry it out
☉ Don’t feed or leave food for the animals
☉ Leave campsites & visited sites better than you found them
☉ Keep fires small and don’t destroy the bush when collecting fire wood
☉ Be absolutely sure the fire is out before leaving your campsite

A destination for exploration