

Experiential and Hands-On Learning Policy:

Outdoor Education, Play, Sport, Lab Work, Craft, Adventurous Training, Trips & Visits.

At Nilai International School we understand the importance and benefits of outdoor, experiential and hands-on learning. We encourage students to engage with their environments confidently, exploring the world, challenging themselves and competing with others. We wish to foster love of nature, life-long commitment to exercise, and positive competitive spirit to improve health, focus and motivation. We also recognise that physical development underlies well-rounded growth across all areas of learning for younger children. We specifically wish to raise children to share the 17 Sustainable Development Goals of the United Nations (<https://www.un.org/sustainabledevelopment/sustainable-development-goals/>)

The environment is an abundant resource which provides opportunities for:

- Developing physical skills, gross motor skills, spatial awareness and use of equipment
- Learning risk-assessment and controlled risk-taking
- Health benefits gained from high-energy activity
- Social interaction through negotiation and interactive play
- Improving communication skills, team work, and understanding of fair play
- Developing emotional skills, resilience, and perseverance
- Increasing knowledge and understanding of the world around us
- Promoting cognitive development through creative, exploratory and imaginative play.
- Applying school learning in real-life and real-world situations outside school.

At NIS we understand that children learn differently in different environments. In Science or Art lessons, they learn in the presence of potentially dangerous equipment, which they must learn to use safely. When they are outside, for example, children have freedom to move and make noise, which sparks their imaginations. Children who can play freely with their friends develop skills for seeing things through another person's point of view – cooperating, helping, sharing and solving problems.

The safety of children enjoying outdoor recreation is crucial. New risk assessments will be carried out for all activities which bring new or unusual risks, and existing risk assessments will be reviewed at least annually, and outdoor areas will be supervised, maintained and cared for by school staff.



NIS staff are trained in the importance of the 6 Ps – ***Proper Planning and Preparation Prevent Poor Performance!*** Before any new risky activity, NIS staff will complete the simple proforma in **Appendix 1** and share it with their Line Manager for discussion and approval in good time before the activity takes place:

Sometimes, keeping children and young people safe, particularly on trips and visits where they are at risk in cities or foreign countries, requires a strong emphasis on the good behaviour, attention and focus of the student, who must exercise care and follow instructions. To promote this, we may ask students to read through, complete and sign our Trips and Visits contract, **Appendix 2**.

Teachers will protect and safeguard children professionally and with care. However, interacting with nature can involve surprises and accidents, insect bites, scrapes and scratches, trips and falls, or accidents with equipment or materials. Children will be taught to manage risks and respond to them with as much maturity as their age allows, and parents should accept that children will be given some freedom to explore, experiment, make mistakes and learn from them, and that some bumps or scrapes are likely to occur in outdoor play and sport. NIS asks for the support and cooperation of parents in developing their children’s physical confidence through Outdoor Education and Play.

Signed:

Review Date

Mr. Charles Dormer, Principal



Experiential Learning Policy, Appendix 1 - Risk Assessment Proforma		
Subject / Department:		
Staff Name:		
<u>Activity 1:</u>	How Could a Child be Hurt During this Activity, by Materials, Equipment or Accident?	a) How Do I Plan to Prevent That? b) How Am I Prepared, if it Happens?
<u>Activity 2:</u>	How Could a Child be Hurt During this Activity, by Materials, Equipment or Accident?	c) How Do I Plan to Prevent That? d) How Am I Prepared, if it Happens?
<u>Activity 3:</u>	How Could a Child be Hurt During this Activity, by Materials, Equipment or Accident?	e) How Do I Plan to Prevent That? f) How Am I Prepared, if it Happens?



<u>Activity 4:</u>	How Could a Child be Hurt During this Activity, by Materials, Equipment or Accident?	a) How Do I Plan to Prevent That? b) How Am I Prepared if it Happens?
Date, Place, Numbers of Staff and Students Involved in Proposed Activity:		
Staff Member Signature/Date		
HoD Comments/Signature/Date:		Recommended / Not Recommended
Principal Comments/Signature/Date:		Approved / Not Approved

Experiential Learning Policy, Appendix 2 – Trips and Visits Contract

1. STUDENT CONDUCT AGREEMENT FOR SCHOOL TRIPS

Nilai International School (NIS) believes in an educational atmosphere that respects students' rights, while expecting students to meet their responsibilities. We encourage our students to think about their behaviour and to be mature, positive, constructive, and motivated people who understand the value of education. Field-trip education is a special, privileged learning opportunity which Students are expected to treat with attention and respect.

Behaviour Expectations:

Things We Expect:

1. Students will show respect and consideration for others and their environment at all times
2. Students will always keep in mind they are representing the School and behave accordingly
3. Students will follow the directions of teachers, chaperones, guides and officials
4. Students will stay in a group at all times and never go anywhere alone
5. Students will be clean, tidy and quiet, and behave as grateful guests towards their hosts
6. Students will dress modestly, decently and safely, and not to attract attention
7. Students will pay careful attention to relevant laws and regulations, and obey them

Things We Do Not Expect:

1. Disorderly conduct, destructive or disrespectful behavior
2. False fire alarms or bomb threats
3. Loud noise or disturbances in hotels or any public place
4. Verbal harassment or physical intimidation, inappropriate language or sexual implications
5. Display of pornography or other offensive materials
6. Inappropriate display of affection, unwelcome touching or unsolicited and inappropriate gestures
7. Lying, dishonesty, forgery
8. Possession, use or sale of tobacco products, alcohol or other drugs, or any activity which involves vaping, smoking or the use of suspicious substances
9. Possession of lighters, matches, drug paraphernalia, firecrackers or dangerous chemicals
10. Possession of weapons or ammunition, or objects resembling them
11. Behaviour likely to cause problem with locals, police airport, customs or immigration officials.

Any violation of these expectations will result in immediate communication with parents / guardians and the school Principal, and may have consequences including temporary or permanent exclusion from school, the involvement of Law Enforcement or Immigration officers, and arrest, imprisonment or summary removal from the country. Each student is responsible for their own behaviour, and must behave with care to avoid giving offence.

2. SCHOOL TRIP STUDENT CONTRACT

Please complete the details below and return your signed contract to the Trip Organiser:-

Student Name:		Class:
Date of Birth:		
Location of Trip:		
Organising Teacher:		

Agreement:

- ❖ I agree to participate fully in and to make a full commitment to this school trip. I have read the itinerary and agree to participate in all the activities included in that list.
- ❖ I accept that any failure on my part to behave responsibly at all times to the teachers/ supervisors/instructors/event organizers, may lead to appropriate sanctions.
- ❖ I have read the expectations, rules and regulation regarding trips (Part 1 of this document) and I agree to abide by them.
- ❖ I understand that school trips and visits are a privilege, and that any failure to behave appropriately may have a bearing on my eligibility for future trips or other school privileges.

Student Signature:	
Date:	