



Waitara High School

PO Box 188, Princess Street
Waitara, New Zealand
Phone +64 6 754 7514, Fax +64 6 754 7199
Email admin.office@waitarajs.school.nz
www.waitarajs.school.nz

Dear Parents/Guardians,

The Board of Trustees has recently reviewed and updated our Education Outside the Classroom, (EOTC), policies and procedures. It is now a requirement for all students and parents to sign a Blanket Consent form to give your child permission to participate in lower risk environments in type A, B and C events.

Please read the attached form as this explains the types of activities that are low risk and return to school once it has been signed. *For example a Sports Day.*

Please note that this is only for low risk activities and separate consent forms will be sent home for higher risk activities such as those mentioned on the form. *For example an Outdoor Education Camp.*

If you have any queries about this form please feel free to contact myself at school.

Regards

Glenn Dawson

Deputy Principal

Waitara High School

Blanket Consent for EOTC

Education Outside The Classroom (EOTC) is the name given to all events/activities that occur outside the classroom, both on and off the school site. This includes sport.

- Our school believes in using a range of environments and experiences to enhance our students' learning.
- We have ready access to the beach, rivers, mountains, and the bush in our area and beyond. We are also close to various built environments in our community. These areas are rich learning environments for our students both in and out of school. They need to learn how to be safe. Our school also values the concept of providing students with opportunities. Thus some of the learning for students occurs beyond the school site and this document is seeking your consent for your child/ren to participate in such learning

More details can be obtained on the MOE website <http://eotc.tki.org.nz/EOTC-home>

The Ministry of Education's **EOTC guidelines** identify four EOTC activity types, each with recommended types of parental/caregiver consent. In brief they are:

Type of event	Description	Type of consent
A	On site- in the school grounds (i) Lower risk environments eg. Sports day, painting murals, measuring for mathematics. (ii) Higher risk environments* eg. Climbing wall	(i) No consent sought or blanket consent (ii) Separate consent for each event or programme
B	Off-site events in the local community occurring in school time. (i) Lower risk environments eg. museum, art gallery, sports and recreation events (ii) Higher risk environments* eg. Aquatic environments (beach, river) cross country training.	(i) Blanket consent at enrolment. (ii) Separate consent for each event or programme
C	Off-site events - finishing after school finishes (i) Lower risk environments eg. Farm visit, day hike in a local park or bush, train, bus or ferry trip, swimming in pools (ii) Higher risk environments* eg skiing, waka ama, rock climbing, swimming in natural environments (beach,river.	(i) Blanket consent at enrolment. (ii) Separate consent for each event or programme
D	Off-site residential overnight events (i) Lower risk environments eg. Trip to another region, sports tournaments, historical sites. (ii) Higher risk environments* eg overseas trip, field trips into natural water, bush or alpine environments, outdoor education camps.	(i) Separate consent (ii) Separate consent for each event or programme

*Involves risk assessed to be greater than that associated with the average family activity.

All EOTC activity categories require staff to undertake an analysis of the risks, and identify the management strategies required to eliminate, isolate and minimise the risks. Emergency procedures are also in place.