



# Learn Away: Outdoor Ed, Adventure Education, Developing GRIT and Student Capacity



# 21st-Century Skills

## Foundational Literacies

How students apply core skills to everyday tasks



1. Literacy



2. Numeracy



3. Scientific literacy



4. ICT literacy



5. Financial literacy



6. Cultural and civic literacy

## Competencies

How students approach complex challenges



7. Critical thinking/  
problem-solving



8. Creativity



9. Communication



10. Collaboration

## Character Qualities

How students approach their changing environment



11. Curiosity



12. Initiative



13. Persistence/  
grit



14. Adaptability



15. Leadership



16. Social and cultural awareness

Lifelong Learning

# Burgmann Anglican School



- ⚔ Needs = environmental, economic and social
- ⚔ Broader goals
- ⚔ Increased individual agency
- ⚔ Navigation skills for individuals
- ⚔ Transformative competencies:
  - *Creating new value*
  - *Reconciling tensions and dilemmas*
  - *Taking responsibility*



## General Capabilities



## DEVELOPING GRIT INCREMENTALLY

- ✚ Wellbeing and Positive Education
- ✚ Projects requiring persistence
- ✚ Developing self control
- ✚ Teaching persistence
- ✚ Physicality

*"Expeditions can greatly contribute towards building strength of character. Joseph Conrad ...tells us that it is necessary for a youth to experience events which 'reveal the inner worth of the man; the edge of his temper; the fibre of his stuff; the quality of his resistance; the secret truth of his pretences, not only to himself but others."*

Kurt Hahn

## Adventurous Activities inherently create:

- ❖ Discomfort
- ❖ Uncertainty
- ❖ Physical and emotional difficulties
- ❖ Need for collaboration
- ❖ Immediate consequence



The discomfort zone, courtesy of Training for Change.

## ALPINE EXPEDITION

What:

- XC Skiing (NOT Alpine)
- Snowcraft
- Overnight camp/bivouac
- Risk management



## ALPINE EXPEDITION



Why:

- ✚ Mistakes matter
- ✚ Survival techniques
- ✚ Teamwork -requires collaboration
- ✚ Tenacity, resilience, tolerance, hardship
- ✚ Expedition and Challenge
- ✚ Connection to peers and adults

## *From the Research...*

- ✚ Guided learning - metaphor, allegory, reflective practice
- ✚ Challenge inherent in all tasks
- ✚ Therapeutic potential for teenagers
- ✚ Building self concept, sense of team, emotional intelligence, connection with natural world and human condition.

## Other Local Options

- ⚔ Farmstay and Caving at Wee Jasper (or Bungonia)
- ⚔ Sea Kayaking at Jervis Bay
- ⚔ Climbing in Nowra
- ⚔ Snorkelling with seals at Narooma
- ⚔ Walking at Mimosa Rocks
- ⚔ Centenary Trail



## Angela Duckworth:



TALENT X **EFFORT** = SKILLS

THEN



SKILLS X **EFFORT** = ACHIEVEMENT

## Our GRIT journey...

- ✚ 2016/2017: failed attempts 1 and 2
- ✚ 2018: launch of Y11 class of 11 students
- ✚ 2019: 11/12 class of 18 students
- ✚ 2020 - 2 x classes (33 students and counting)

# Burgmann Anglican School



*“The purpose of life is not to be happy. It is to be useful, to be honorable, to be compassionate, to have it make some difference that you have lived and lived well.”*

— Ralph Waldo Emerson

