



Hunter Valley
Grammar School

29 January 2019

Event ID: 3827

YEAR 9 CAMP – URBAN CHALLENGE

Dear Parent/Guardian

Hunter Valley Grammar School has a commitment to Outdoor Education and regards it as an important part of the curriculum offered by the school. Camps are held annually for Years 3 - 11. These camps are an opportunity for students to learn lessons that are difficult to deliver in the classroom. The outdoors can assist in the acquisition of personal qualities such as independence, perseverance, teamwork and leadership. While these camps often involve exploration of the outdoors they also encourage students to explore their inner worlds through the challenges they face and the relationships they develop.

Details

Camp for Year 9 occurs in week 11 of Term 1. The camp is organised by Urban Challenge, who have extensive experience with this area. The Year 9 students will have a week of challenge in one of the World's Premier Cities – Sydney. Details of the camp are summarised below:

Date: **Tuesday 9 April – Friday 12 April 2019**
Location: Sydney metropolitan (CBD)
Departure: 6:45am Tuesday 9 April from HVGS
Return: 2:30pm Friday 12 April

Further details of the Year 9 camp are provided in the information sheets attached to this letter. Activities planned for this camp include:

- ♣ students will make their way from one destination to the next utilising public transport systems (bus/train/ferry/tram) in Sydney. Along the way they will complete various tasks,
- ♣ students will plan, purchase food and cook most meals,
- ♣ accommodation is at a range of Youth Hostels Australia in the Sydney metropolitan area,
- ♣ using the internet to gather tasks, clues and destinations,
- ♣ if time permits swim in patrolled pools and beaches,
- ♣ some time out for entertainment – including movies (m rating maximum)
- ♣ team building initiatives, and
- ♣ surfing lessons with Surfing Australia

Each student attending camp will take part in a 3-week program which will enable them to develop the skills required to take part in the Urban Challenge. During this time students will work on areas such as safety, gear lists, orientation and teamwork. Each group will be supervised and accompanied by a member of teaching staff and the Urban Challenge team will be working alongside each group to help them meet their goals at various locations.

A 30/40 litre pack is required for the camp (HVGS school bag can be used). A sports bag is suitable to bring to camp as long as it can be worn over both shoulders. Students will carry their packs with them each day from one Youth Hostel to the next, so pack lightly. I hope that parents do not need to make purchases.

Students will need to be at school by 6:45am on Tuesday and will be able to catch their school bus home on Friday.

CAMP RULES FOR STUDENTS

Before Camp

1. It is the responsibility of the student to ensure that they bring all the required equipment for their camp.
2. No alcohol, cigarettes, or illegal drugs are to be brought to camp. The penalties for such will be harsh – the student will be removed from camp.

At Camp

1. Students are to abide by the rules of the Campsite/Program Provider. Normal school rules also apply where applicable.
2. Students are to be polite and comply with all directions given by teachers and instructors.
3. No mobile phones or money should be at camp.

NOTE – students are not permitted to bring Mobile phones, ipods, money etc to camp. They will be given all transport passes, money etc that they require on each leg of the journey.

Please complete and return all the forms to your Mentor Teacher by Monday 4 February 2019.

If you have further questions please contact Ms Sheeba via email at sheebal@hvgs.nsw.edu.au

Yours sincerely



Loodia Sheeba
Teacher in charge - Outdoor Education



Brett Blake
Director of Administration



Hunter Valley Grammar School - Year 9 Urban Challenge

Online Information & Medical Form

Dear Parents and Caregivers

The Hunter Valley Grammar School Year 9 Urban Challenge will run from **Tuesday 9th to Friday 12th April 2019.**

A 4 day program filled with fun and adventure, the students will be involved in an unfolding journey taking them around the Sydney CBD and surrounding suburbs. They will organise their own food, travel and selves as they navigate and negotiate their way across the city. The students will learn about team work and real life lessons (such as public transport won't wait for the slow team!) whilst being supervised by a school staff member and guided by an Urban Challenge guide. All this will happen while with friends and learning skills and methods in self-sufficiency, leadership and followership, team responsibility, and much more.

We have created a private page for your school on our website where you will find all the information about our program and how to register your child/ward's details for the Challenge. Please use the information below to log in and fill out the required details.

During the program this private page will allow parents/guardians the opportunity to watch the progress of the teams and play along to help their child/ward's team earn extra points. Using the same login details below (so please keep this in a safe place) parents access challenges, read the teams' daily blogs and view photos and videos of the program. This portal will be open closer to the program and remain open till long after it is finished.

At the end of the Challenge, students and parents alike will be able to log in here to download the images from the program.

How to access the Hunter Valley Grammar School private page on our website and complete the personal and medical details:

1. Go to www.theurbanchallenge.com.au
2. Click on 'My Urban Challenge' and login with:
 - Username: hvgsurban
 - Password: hvgs2019
3. Information about the program will appear here.
4. Please then complete the compulsory personal and medical fields.
5. If you choose to purchase any gear for the Challenge from us, full payment will be required at this time.
6. Once the online program form has been completed you will receive a summary of these details onscreen and be emailed this information along with our consent form which you will need to sign and return to the school coordinator by the specified date, please also save these summaries for your own records.

Please navigate our website for further information about The Urban Challenge.

We are looking forward to seeing the students on The Urban Challenge!

The Urban Challenge Team

The Urban Challenge

EQUIPMENT LIST

The following is a recommended equipment list for students attending The Urban Challenge.

Please note items in bold are essential for your well-being.

Wear comfortable clothes - no singlet tops or short shorts.

While completing the challenge you will be staying in youth hostels each night - linen, pillow cases and blankets are supplied.

Gear should be packed in a back pack (your school backpack or rucksack of similar size). Shoulder bags and suitcases are not suitable.

It is important to pack minimal gear as you will be carrying your backpack each day throughout the Challenge.



- > **Rain jacket** - Essential and must be waterproof.
- > **Footwear** - Shoes that are sturdy and comfortable for walking all day. Thongs may be brought to wear in the shower.
- > **Sun hat** - Compulsory. We recommend a soft hat with a wide brim or peak and cape.
- > **Water bottle** - Must be refillable and at least 600ml.
- > Long sleeve shirt & long pants - For sun protection and evening warmth.
- > Polo shirts or T-shirts.
- > Jumper/fleece - Not too bulky.
- > Socks & underwear - One set for each day.
- > Tracksuit/PJs - To sleep in.
- > **1 pack towel** - We will supply a pack towel for all students do not bring any other towels.
- > Swimming costume - You may have the opportunity to swim throughout the Challenge.
- > Toiletries - Don't go overboard as all items have to be carried.
- > Sun screen - Bring a small tube.
- > 2 large garbage bags - For wet gear and waterproofing in the even of rain.
- > **Student ID** - You will receive a student OPAL card for the duration of your Urban Challenge - you will need ID in case your card is checked by an inspector.



Medications: All medications should be listed on the medical form supplied by the school.

Food: Please do not bring any sweets or junk food to The Urban Challenge - there will be plenty of meals to keep you going.

Valuables: Please do not bring the following - mobile phones, your own money, electronic games, iPods, expensive jewellery as we are not responsible for lost items.

Contacts: For general enquiries call our Sydney office on 02 9483 9333 during business hours. If after hours contact is required, please call the office line for the listed number for your program.



Year 9 Camp – Sydney Urban Challenge

Event ID: 3827

Please complete and return the following forms to your Mentor Teacher by Monday, 4 February 2019.

▲ HVGS permission slip pg5

▲ HVGS Medication Information Form pg6

▲ Urban Challenge Consent form – you will receive this via email to print out when you complete your online personal and medical information

Student Name: _____

Mentor Group: _____

I give permission for my son/daughter to participate in the School Camp Program from 9 April to 12 April 2019. I have read and understand the information contained in this permission letter. I understand, and support the nature of the activities that will be undertaken at Camp.

For the purpose of supervised unstructured water activity (free swim at POOL OR NATURAL WATERWAY)

PLEASE TICK

I give permission for my son or daughter to participate in unstructured water activity. I judge my son/daughter to be:

a capable swimmer

a non-swimmer

I do not give permission for my son or daughter to participate

Risk Warning

While Hunter Valley Grammar School takes measures to make camp activities as safe as reasonably practicable for participants, there is a risk that students can be injured, suffer loss (including financial loss) and damage as a result of their participation in these activities.

Injury can occur while the student is engaging in or watching an activity, or traveling to and from an activity. The injury may result from a student’s actions or the actions of others.

On some occasions, an injury can be serious (such as torn ligaments, dislocations, back injuries, concussion or broken bones). In very rare cases, the injury can be life-threatening or result in permanent disability. If a student has a pre-existing injury, participating in particular kinds of activity could result in an exacerbation of that injury.

Students could also suffer loss as a result of their personal property being lost, stolen, damaged or destroyed.

Please sign below to acknowledge that you understand the risks associated with the camp activities, and that you are aware of the activities that your child will participate in. Please nominate any activity in particular in which your child is **not** to participate:

Signature: _____

Parent/Guardian

Date _____



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MEDICATION INFORMATION

If your child will be taking any medication to camp, they are required to hand it to their Head of Year on the morning of camp in a snap lock bag with their name clearly printed on the front. This will be administered by the teacher supervising your child during the camp.

Please supply information in the table below regarding the correct usage of all medication that your child will be taking to camp.

Name of Medication	Quantity (tablets/ml etc)	Time of day (Morning / evening etc)	Other relevant information eg with food etc