Snake Management Plan

The following procedures apply at Clancy Catholic College:

- Prior to any play on the grass the teacher on duty checks the perimeter of the play area concentrating on the garden beds, near classrooms, and where there is tall grass.
- Teachers should have a College mobile phone when on duty.
- The school office should always have a number available for the local Snake Catcher (9607 3274) or local Council (000 – Fire Brigade – advise snake) so that if there is ever an incident involving a snake or a snake sighting, the relevant authorities can be contacted straight away.
- A snake should never be approached and should be left well alone.
- All teachers need to be aware of first aid procedures if a child or an adult is attacked by a snake (on reverse).
- First aid Snake Bite box, located in the College Reception, must be easily accessible, and always possess appropriate first aid equipment for snake bites e.g. Bandages, Splints etc.
- School Bags should be closed at all times if they are kept outside.
- Classroom doors should be locked at the end of each lesson.

If there is a snake sighting:

- Teacher on duty will ask students to “stand still immediately”.
- All students freeze and wait for teacher instructions.
- Teacher indicates to students to make their way quickly to the verandas, unless these are the danger areas, and wait for further teacher instructions.
- Teacher on duty calls the school office with the information and a description of the snake and the location where it was sighted.
- The school office contacts the local authorized Snake Catcher to come and catch the snake.
- The local snake catcher is Richard Shearim and he can be contacted on 9607 3274.

If there is an incident where there is a snake bite:

- Remove the casualty from danger avoiding too much movement.
- Follow basic first aid procedures printed on reverse. Bandage the affected area tightly.
- Call or send a person to notify the office for assistance.
- Calm the casualty and keep them still.
- Office rings 000 and requests an ambulance.

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First Aid for Snake Bites

Do **NOT** wash the area!

Do **NOT** cut the bitten area or move the patient!

**Procedure:**

1. Calm the student. Do **NOT** let the student walk or move - Do **NOT** take off their clothing.
2. Send anyone available to notify the Front office for them to call an ambulance.
3. Apply a ‘Pressure Immobilisation’ bandage - See below for instructions.
4. Immobilise student:
   - Apply a splint to immobilise the bitten limb. (Any rigid object may be used as a splint eg: Piece of wood, tree branch, rolled up newspapers etc).
   - Check circulation- Fingers and toes.
   - Ensure patient does not move - it is vital they stay as still as possible until help arrives.
5. Stay with the patient. Keep talking and monitoring them.

**Pressure Immobilisation Bandage**