



**KANGARIE**  
**2025 LIFE IN AN ARCADE**

**INFORMATION BOOKLET  
INITIAL RELEASE**

**LEVEL UP YOUR ADVENTURE!**

**[WWW.KANGARIE.COM.AU](http://WWW.KANGARIE.COM.AU)**

# Kangaree Management Team

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# WELCOME TO ... KANGAREE!

INITIALIZING JOEY SCOUT ADVENTURE...

SCANNING FOR FUN...

SYNCHRONIZING WITH JOEY SCOUTS ACROSS VICTORIA...

WELCOME, ADVENTURER!

You've entered Kangaree, the ultimate Joey Scout experience!

Your mission: Camp under the stars, explore new challenges, and unlock a world of fun!

Your Tools:

- A spirit of adventure
- Teamwork and friendship
- A love for the outdoors
- Boundless energy

## Game Mode: Real-Life Camping Experience!

Objectives:

- **Develop your character** – Level up your physical, emotional, social, spiritual, and intellectual skills!
- **Unlock new experiences** – Try exciting activities and challenges!
- **Connect with fellow players** – Meet Joey Scouts from across Victoria!
- **Activate Fun Mode** – Enjoy a weekend packed with laughter and adventure!
- **Expand the Scouting world** – Help grow and strengthen our Joey Scout community!
- **Master the Fundamentals** – Learn and apply the core skills of Scouting!

The adventure begins NOW!

# Director's Message

Welcome to the 8th Victorian Kangaree, 2025 (Life in an Arcade)  
This Kangaree promises to be a spectacular gathering, for the first time all of our Joey Scouts will be camping together for an unforgettable weekend of fun, friendship, and adventure at the fabulous Bay Park Scout Camp!

A heartfelt thank you to all of you who have dedicated your time and energy to make this Kangaree an incredible experience for our Joey Scouts. I have no doubt they'll return home brimming with excitement and stories that will be shared for days—if not weeks!

My deepest gratitude also goes out to the Kangaree team for their dedication, planning, and effort as well as the State Joey Scout Council and the Joey Scout Youth Council for their trust and support in making this event a reality.

Let's create amazing memories together and make Kangaree 2025 one for the history books!

Yours in Scouting,  
Shirin Witts  
Chief Director – Kangaree 2025



# Administration

What Roles can I do at Kangaree:

- Kangaree Unit Leader
- Kangaree Line Leader
- Kangaree Unit Health and Welfare
- Activities Leader

Please note that acceptance into these roles will be decided by the Kangaree Organising Team.



# Unit Size

35 youth

7 adults as a base level.

42 per unit as a minimum to maintain ratios

Administration is the first point of contact during the event for:

- Wristbands
- Site Access – Check In / Check Out Point
- Independent travellers
- Applicant Records
- Communications (Radio)
- Lost property
- Urgent calls from home – These should come through the Admin team or EMC

If you have any questions in the lead-up to Kangaree please contact the Admin Team via email [enquiries@kangaree.com.au](mailto:enquiries@kangaree.com.au)



Please include the registration number or participant ID where possible.

## Admin FAQs

When you apply for Kangaree, an Event Fee Deposit will need to be paid before your registration is accepted. Refunds will only be issued at the discretion of the Kangaree Chief Director.

### When will applications open and close?

Please keep an eye on Be Informed for the confirmed date of applications.

### PIN generation issues/requests?

Send them through – we're happy to help – we need the 7-digit Scout ID, name, and date of birth of the applicant.

### When and where will the buses leave from?

Transport will be finalised after applications close, when we know who is coming.

Generally, the pick-up location will be close to your local Scout Hall.

### Requirements for adults 18 years and above who are coming along to Kangaree:

- Must be a registered Adult Leader, Rover or Adult Supporter with Scouts Australia
- Hold a current WWCC at the time of Kangaree
- Have a current completed Police Check by Scouts Australia
- Have a current completion of the WHS Module
- Have a current completion of the Child Safe Module
- Have completed the current Adult Code of Conduct Module

Please make sure these Checks and Modules are up to date by no later than September 12 2025.

## Our Site

Bay Park Scout Camp is a premier camping destination on the beautiful Mornington Peninsula, offering a well-maintained natural environment perfect for Scouting adventures. The camp provides expansive camping areas ideal for an authentic outdoor experience, with designated spaces for tents and group camping.

Why Bay Park for the Victorian Joey Scout Kangaree? Bay Park is the perfect setting for an overnight camping experience for all Joey Scouts. With spacious campgrounds surrounded by nature, Joey Scouts will enjoy a true outdoor adventure while participating in a variety of engaging activities. The site also offers accessible amenities, a central administration area, and secure camping zones to ensure a safe and enjoyable experience for all.

## Camping at Kangaree

For the First time ever, Kangaree will be fully under canvas. Each Unit will be allocated a camp site. Along with an eating shelter. Please refer to the equipment list of suggested items to bring along.

Each Group will be providing their OWN tents, and it is each Group's responsibility to arrange the transport of the gear to and from the site.

Please refer to the Unit packing list for a list of items that each Unit will need to bring at a minimum

Perhaps consider working in District/Region teams and working together to come and set up the tents prior to the event. Units don't need excessive camping gear.

There will be POWER AVAILABLE and gas tanks only provided in designated cooking areas!







## Bump In and Out

### Bump In

Units can come on-site the weekend before Kangaree kicks off.

**Dates:** September 20 – 21

**Time:** 10am – 5pm

Bump-in teams can't stay overnight unless they have written approval from the Chief Director.

Also, everyone on-site must be 16 or older since it's considered a work site.

### Bump Out

Bump-out will begin once the last Youth bus has left the site. Everyone on-site must be 16 or older, as it's considered a work site.

More details will be shared closer to the date.

**Setup layout for camping:** Will be provided closer to the event.

**Toilets/Showers:** There will be additional toilets and showers scattered throughout the site.

**Drinking facilities:** There will be opportunities to fill up water bottles scattered through the site.

Please ensure that the Joey Scouts are drinking plenty of fluids. All water taps on site are drinking water.



# Packing List (for individuals)

## Uniform

- Full uniform to be worn to and from Kangaree
- Your Group scarf should be left at home. A Kangaree scarf will be supplied
- Plastic bag (named) large enough to put all uniform in for safekeeping

## Personal Clothing

Please consider the latest weather forecast.

- Jumper (warm)
- Raincoat / Waterproof, warm jacket
- T-Shirt or polo shirt
- Warm shirt
- Underclothing
- Socks
- Change of shoes/boots suitable for activities
- Gumboots (if weather is going to be wet)
- Camp Blanket (optional)

## Toiletries

- Towel and soap
- Hairbrush and comb
- Toothbrush and paste

## Sleeping Gear

- Good quality sleeping bag (NO thin bags, as it can be cold at night)
- One pillow and one blanket
- Pyjamas
- Stretcher (preferred – as the kit bag can go underneath it) or sleeping mat. Single size only please!

## Other Items

- Day pack – small (for activities)
- Water bottle
- Hat and Sunscreen
- Small torch
- Insect repellent (NON aerosol)
- Rubbish bags for dirty clothes

## Medication

N.B. Asthma medication is to be with the Joey Scout in the Joey Scout's pack and NOT the Leaders' pack. All other medication and instructions (including EpiPens) to be named and in a resealable plastic bag which will be carried by the Joey Scout Leader in their daypack.

### NOTE:

Please ensure all gear is clearly named and packed into ONE BAG

NO electronic equipment, lollies, or NUT products to be brought to Camp.

Please send extra bedding if your child could wet the bed and also advise their Leaders.



# Packing List (for Units)

- Tents providing suitable accommodation for Joey scouts
- Tents for Leaders and Adult Supporters
- Dining shelter
- Tables and chairs
- Lighting for your campsite
- Flat 4 burner BBQ
- BBQ cooking utensils
- Campsite gateway- why not build a fun entrance to your site?

\*Dilly bags are not required

Need advice on how to set up your campsite?  
Why not reach out to your local Scout Unit, join them by helping out at a camp. Invite them to your Unit night and learn from their skills and experience.

All Units are encouraged to have a practice camp under canvas before the event. Set yourself and your Joeys up for success!



# Merchandise

Joey Scouts will receive their scarves on arrival at Kangaree.  
Kangaree shirts are also available for purchase for both Joey Scouts and adults at <https://bit.ly/kangareescoutshop>

If you or your Joey Scouts need any gear such as uniforms, clothing, sleeping bags or stretchers, the Scout Shop has a Kangaree page you can view here <https://bit.ly/kangareescoutshop>



# Wellbeing

Kangaree should be a fun, challenging, and exciting experience for every Joey Scout.

But sometimes things go wrong, or the fun and excitement becomes overwhelming. Sometimes, the challenges appear insurmountable, and sometimes a person's brain just goes into overdrive and will convince them that the situation is uncontrollable or unsafe.

Every Joey will have a moment where things stop being fun, and some may need more in the way of direct support or intervention.

Kangaree will have a dedicated Wellbeing Team for both youth and adults, but our wellbeing response starts with you, the Unit Leaders. You have the most important job, and what you say and do can have a huge impact before, during, and after Kangaree.

So, here are some tips to help you help your Joeys have the best time! (Your sanity might thank you as well).

## Say Hello and Introduce Yourself

You're the trusted adult and protective factor rolled into one. When things go sideways and the emotions are too big for self-regulation, a young person will need adult support – especially if their words and actions are telling you to go away or are making them incredibly unlikeable. Bringing a Youth member back from a state of distress can sometimes be as easy as being visible, but it is made significantly easier if you've introduced yourself.

## Keep Calm and Carry On

Mutually assured destruction is not a valid strategy. Meet big emotions with the same tone and temperament you would use when discussing the weather or telling a funny story. Your engagement is about creating an atmosphere of lightness and interest when you communicate. When a Youth member finds it hard to regulate their feelings, anger can become rage, fear, terror and sadness (not quite the Dark Side, but close).

If this is the case, then children may also find it hard to regulate feelings of excitement and joy. Feeling these emotions can sometimes turn to anxiety. It's not about being a comedian and trying to be funny all the time or making jokes when a Joey Scout is sad, but if you can create that atmosphere of lightness, playfulness and interest BEFORE the big emotions, it's easier to show the Youth member that the situation is under control and that you are there for them.

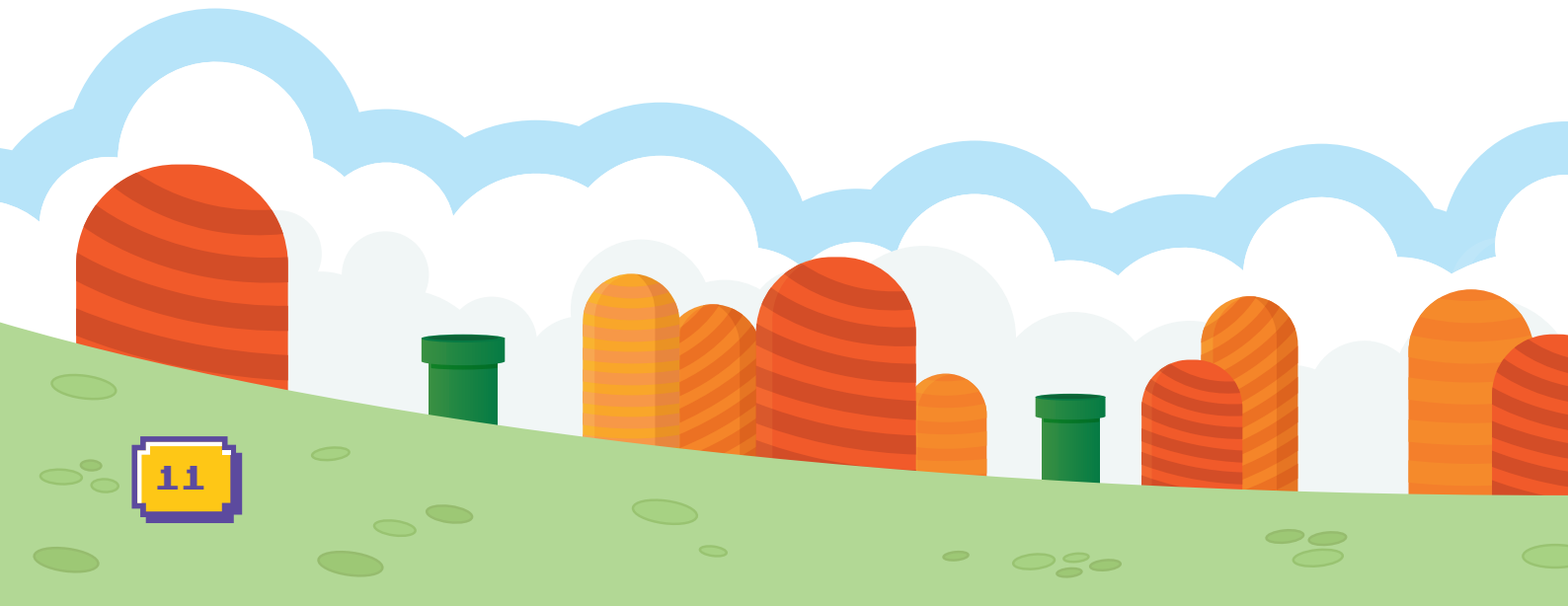
## Misdirection

Misdirection is a fantastic and low effort strategy that works on Youth members and adults! You know how you got to know the Youth member's name? Well now it's time to ask them a question. If you ask the question before they're in distress, then you've got something to talk about. Sports. Movies. Books. Anything is content. If that doesn't work, ground them with a conversation about something banal and pointless but requires them to be present and observant and not focused upon their rapidly pounding heart or feeling of existential dread. You'll need to work a little harder than this, but... Can you see that thing over there? What colours would you add to the Joey scarf? How's that local sports team? Did you watch the episode of Bluey where... I cannot quote the Bluey scripture, but you get the drift. Otherwise, there are always things to do, asking for help can also work.

## Listen, Communicate and Validate

You know how being told to calm down never actually works? Well, if a Youth member's brain is telling them that the situation is uncontrollable or unsafe, telling them that they're OK runs completely opposite to what their reptilian brain is screaming at them.

Instead of telling them that they're OK, tell them what happened and help them return to feeling safe. "Hey there champion (you know their name, yeah?), you fell





and scraped your knee. It hurts when you scrape your knee. I'm here to help. Breathe." Maybe they didn't fall, but they're giving the world attitude because they wanted a go on the inflatable slide again and ran out of time. "Hey champion, you wanted another go on the slide and we ran out of time. You seem frustrated. It's hard when you want another go at something and you run out of time. You'll get to go on a jumping castle another time. Breathe." Your delivery will be way smoother. Telling them to breathe might sound silly, but I promise you they've forgotten.

## Get it in Writing

This tip is about Operoo. Your best resource in understanding your Youth member and the ways to support them is their parents. If the Youth member has a management plan, ensure that it's current and

uploaded into Operoo. However, two nights of camping sandwiched between fun activities, entertainment, and lots of food is a very different experience to school. Some kids will have something formalised already that will include management strategies and known triggers - that should be uploaded and documented in Operoo - but most Joeys will not, because school is a safe and comfortable space.

Kangaree is not school. Just because a Joey does not have a formal management plan does not mean you should ignore the experience of their parents. Maybe a pre-event questionnaire that asks, "When your child is sad or upset, how does your family help them feel safe?" Will give you a little insight into managing a restless child that can't seem to get to sleep. Combine that with your own observations from sleepovers and Unit camps, and you're onto a winner!

## What If?

But what if the emotions are too big, something major has happened, or you suspect something major has happened, or maybe you've done your best and you still can't get them back into the activity. In that case, visit the Health and Wellbeing Hub!

Kangaree will be running a drop-in tent on the lawn, where we will support you in getting your Joey back out there. Sometimes, all it takes is a quiet space and ten minutes playing Uno or colouring in.

The adult wellbeing space will also be nearby. Much like the Joey space, it offers short term stays so you can get back out there and continue supporting their fun and excitement.

If something major has occurred, we will also assist you there. The People and Wellbeing Team has several highly trained and experienced Leaders who will triage and manage any challenging situations. In addition, there will be a complex case manager who will deal with the more extreme and complex behaviour and wellbeing cases.

Some situations are beyond what we would expect your average leader to work through. The complex case manager will be deployed at the discretion of the People and Wellbeing Director.

As always. If in doubt, come to the Wellbeing Hub.

As a general and useful reminder. The Scouts Victoria Child Safe number is **1800 870 772**.

It is likely the person who answers the phone is already at Kangaree. If you form a reasonable belief that a young person is at risk of harm, or you have concerns for their safety or well-being, call that number.

Don't try and investigate or solve the problem. Ensure the Youth member is free from immediate harm and seek further support.



## Extra Information

It's only two nights.

Kangaree is for every Joey. We will make every reasonable adjustment to ensure this event is fun, safe, challenging, and inclusive. This event adheres to the Scouts Australia Diversity and Inclusion Standards. Should a Youth member in your Unit require additional support or adjustments, please email [people.wellbeing@kangaree.com.au](mailto:people.wellbeing@kangaree.com.au) and we can help. This might include adjustment to an activity, to dining, or access to toilets.

Empowerment and participation. Youth Leading, Adult Supporting is fundamental to the continued success of the Scout Method. Joeys are small and will obviously require more direct support but giving them a say, listening to their opinions, and validating their ideas will help build trust and make them feel safer.

Communicate. The Unit Leaders have primary responsibility for the health and wellbeing of the Joeys under their supervision, so talk to your parents about Kangaree. Lower their anxieties and gain valuable knowledge about the Youth members you will be responsible for.

The drop-in tent will be a quiet place for Joeys to reset. The primary focus is calming their big emotions to get them back out as quickly as possible. A Unit Leader must always accompany the Joey.

Common experience says calling home can be disastrous. You, as the Unit Leader, need to make that call. We would recommend against it, but you know your Youth members best.

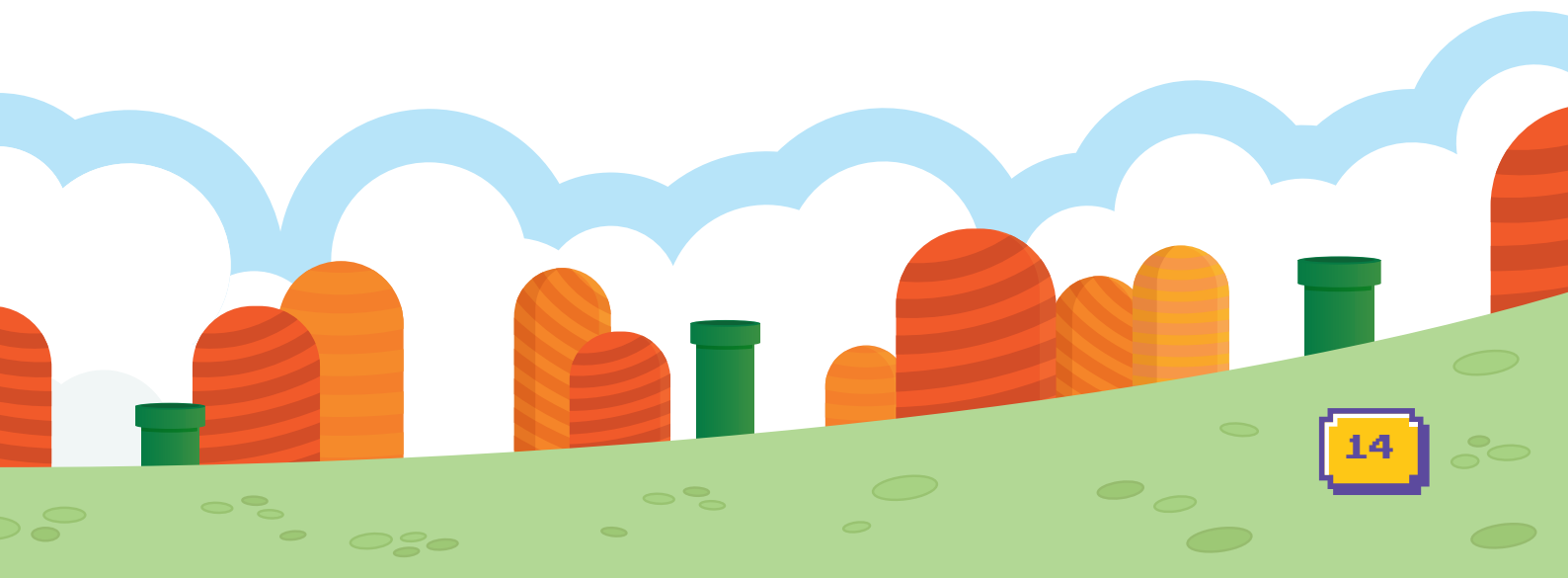
If you have questions, email the People and Wellbeing Team before the event, or drop into the Health and Wellbeing Hub during the event.

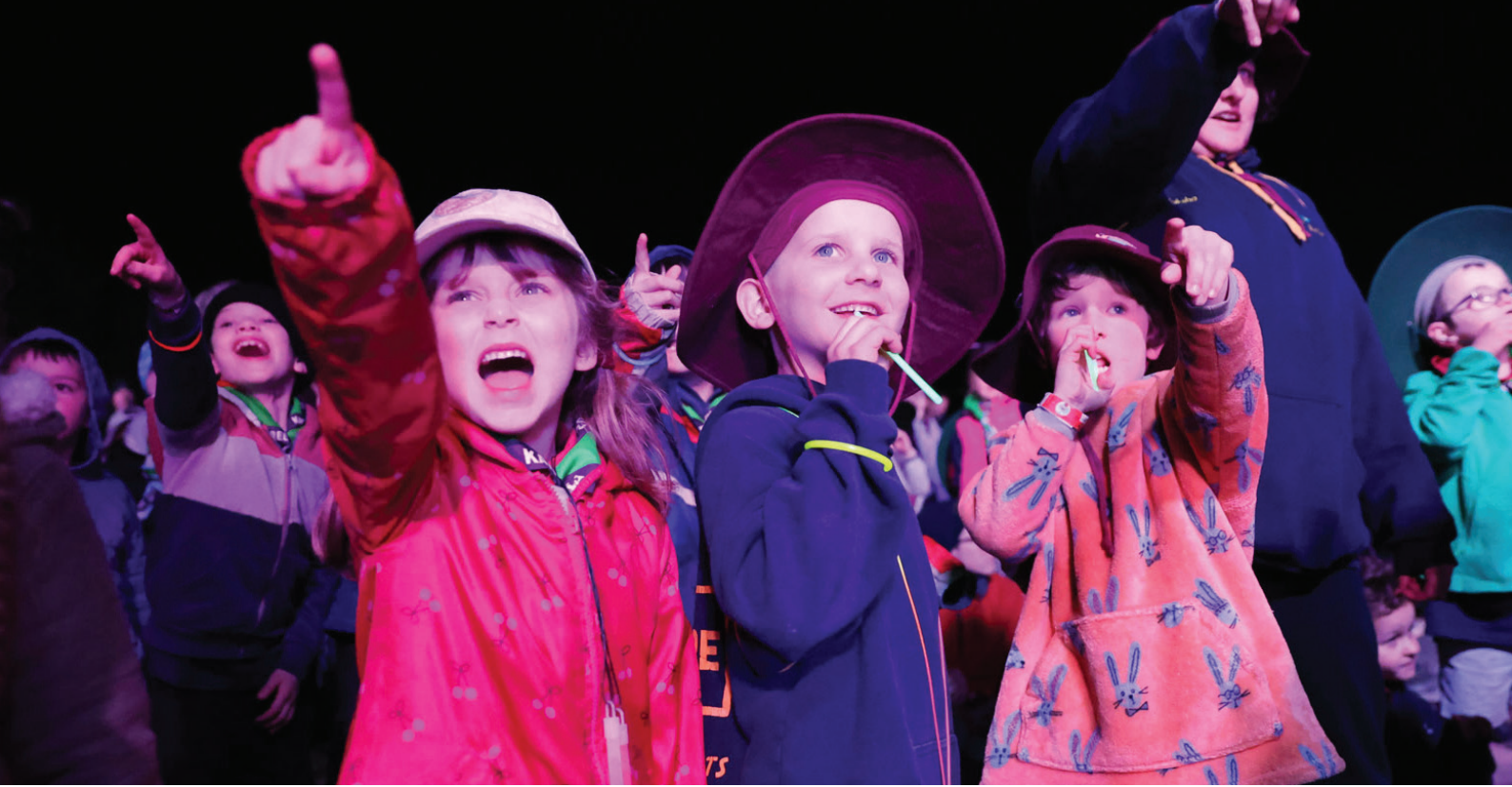
## First Aid

**Medications:** When needing to administer medication consider the following check list:

- Check the child: Ensure that you have the correct Joey Scout!
- READ: Ensure that the name on the medication is correct for the person who you are providing it to
- Check the dosage and method of administration
- Two people to read and record this process. Have another Leader check the above points are correct!
- Record the information in a small chart/note pad
- Bring your own band aids and minor first aid kit
- Asthma medication to be carried by the child with updated action plan
- Epi pen and updated action to be carried by Leader accompanying the Joey. This must remain with a Leader near to the Joey Scout  
AT ALL TIMES
- Make sure Operoo is updated of any changes prior to coming to camp

If you have ANY CONCERNS please speak with Chris Logan, People and Wellbeing at: [people.wellbeing@kangaree.com.au](mailto:people.wellbeing@kangaree.com.au)





## Event Management Centre (EMC)

Kangaree has an Event Management Centre (EMC) which is staffed 24 hours a day to respond to emergencies and urgent event issues. Following on from our trials and activation at VicJam, we are following a similar model for Kangaree. The EMC proactively monitors weather, respond resources to incidents and consider the wider event management matters relating to Kangaree.

Youth participants and Leaders can raise the alarm by:

- Telling a Leader (Line Leader, Unit Leader, Service Leader and Activity Leader etc)
- Telling a Kangaree Team Member (such as Security, Catering, First Aid, Sites and Services etc)
- Phone call directly to the Kangaree Emergency Line

Incidents can be notified through the following mechanisms to the Event Management Centre:

- Verbally via telephone to the Kangaree Emergency Line
- Verbally via radio to the Event Management Centre on the Emergency talk group

In the event you require a resource, or want to report an event related issue, we will dispatch and track the activity through to completion.



## Catering

### Before mealtime

- Get your Joey Scouts to go to the toilet
- Wash and sanitise hands, while being entertained!
- Everyone will get a drink bottle to use at Kangaree – we'll have cordial and water outside the dining room for you to fill them up
- Arrive at the time specified for your Unit (check your handbook - when published)
- Visit Wombat Hollow before/after your mealtime

### During mealtime

- You'll be eating in your Unit for every meal
- Unit Leaders and Adult Helpers to assist Joey Scouts serve themselves and assemble their food
- If there's something you can't eat, you're able to self-exclude at the dining table e.g. tomatoes

### After mealtime

- Help teach the Joey Scouts how to scrape and stack their plates
- Please clear all rubbish from your table - organic waste in the organic bins on the table and the remainder in the recycling/landfill bins in the Hall
- Nominate an adult to take all reusable crockery, cutlery and trays to the dishwashing station past the exit
- Collect your snack on the way out

## Modified diets

- A lot of modified diets can be handled at the table. No ham, no tomatoes etc
- Meals will be provided for persons with modified diets or special requirements
- Please ensure that your Operoo is up to date and any allergies or dietary requirements are clearly stated
- Meals will be eaten either at the Unit campsite or out and about during the day
- Lunches are to be collected in the mornings by the Unit Leader and distributed to the Joeys to carry in their day packs. This leaves more time for rest and relaxation during and in-between activities rather than lining up for lunch!
- Dinners are to be cooked at the designated cooking areas around your sub camp and eaten at your campsite. All items needed for dinners will be provided to each Unit in packs and only minimal cooking will be required





**Scouts**  
VICTORIA

# HANGARREE

2025 LIFE IN AN ARCADE

