

YARD DUTY AND ACTIVE SUPERVISION POLICY



Help for non-English speakers

If you need help to understand the information in this policy, please contact the school office.

PURPOSE

To ensure school staff understand their supervision and yard duty responsibilities.

SCOPE

This policy applies to all teaching and non-teaching staff at Warreen Primary School, including education support staff, casual relief teachers and visiting teachers.

POLICY

Appropriate supervision is an important strategy to monitor student behaviour and enables staff to identify and respond to possible risks at school as they arise. It also plays a vital role in helping schools to discharge their duty of care to students.

The Principal is responsible for ensuring that there is a well organised and responsive system of supervision and yard duty in place during school hours, before and after school, and on school excursions and camps and other school activities.

School staff are responsible for following reasonable and lawful instructions from the Principal, including instructions to provide supervision to students at specific dates, times and places. Supervision should be undertaken in a way that identifies and mitigates risks to child safety. Supervision should be undertaken in a way that identifies and mitigates risks to child safety.

Before and after school

Warreen Primary School's grounds are supervised by school staff from 8.45am until 3.30pm. Outside of these hours, school staff will not be available to supervise students. Before and after school, school staff will supervise at gates leading in and out of the school.

Parents and carers will be advised through a notification on our school website, regular reminders in our newsletter, and on COMPASS that they should not allow their children to attend Warreen Primary School outside of these hours. Parents/carers are encouraged to contact the schools 'Outside of School Hours' provider to arrange care outside of these supervised times and the before and after school care facilities available to our school community.

If a student arrives at school before supervision commences at the beginning of the day, the Principal or nominee staff member will, as soon as practicable, follow up with the parent/carer to:

- advise of the supervision arrangements before school
- request that the parent/carer make alternate arrangements.



If a student is not collected before supervision finishes at the end of the day, the Principal or nominated staff member will consider whether it is appropriate to:

- attempt to contact the parents/carers
- attempt to contact the emergency contacts
- place the student in an out of school hours care program (if available and the parent consents)
- contact Victoria Police and/or Child Protection to arrange for the supervision, care and protection of the student.

Yard duty

All staff at Warreen Primary School are expected to assist with active supervision and will be included in the weekly timetable.

The Principal and Assistant Principal is responsible for preparing and communicating the active supervision timetable on a regular basis. At Warreen Primary School, school staff will be designated a specific area to supervise.

Shared use of the oval with Bemis Secondary College Everton Road Campus (7-9) will be displayed on the yard duty timetable and adequate supervision is timetabled.

Yard duty zones

The designated yard duty areas for our school (beginning Term 1, 2024) are

Zone	Area
Zone 1	Learning Neighbourhoods and play spaces
Zone 2	Learning Neighbourhoods and play spaces
Zone 3	Hardcourts
Zone 4	Sports Field
Zone 5	Oval (only on allocated days)



Yard duty equipment

School staff must:

- wear a provided safety/hi-vis vest whilst on active supervision, provided at induction.
- carry the active supervision first aid bag at all times during supervision. Every staff member has their own first aid bag which is to be kept in their classrooms.
- Be familiar with the active supervision information pack containing student health and safety information in the bag or information with our Yard Duty timetable

First Aid bags will be refreshed at the end of each term or when required.

Supervision responsibilities

Staff who are rostered for active supervision must remain in the designated area until they are replaced by a relieving staff member.

During active supervision, supervising school staff must:

- methodically move around the designated zone ensuring active supervision of all students. Staff are required to move in a clockwise position, to ensure that all areas are within line of sight to at least one yard duty teacher at a time. At all times, skimming and scanning for environmental risks, or students requiring pre-correction or assistance in their play.
- where safe to do so, approach any unknown visitor who is observed on school grounds without a clear legitimate purpose, and ensure they have a visitor pass and have signed in (excluding drop off and collection periods)
- be alert and vigilant



- intervene immediately if potentially dangerous or inappropriate behaviour is observed in the yard
- enforce behavioural standards and implement appropriate consequences for breaches of safety rules, in accordance with any relevant disciplinary measures set out in the school's Student Wellbeing and Engagement policy
- ensure that students who require first aid assistance receive it as soon as practicable
- log any incidents or near misses as appropriate (health and safety issues through EduSafe Plus, other incidents through Compass).

If being relieved of their active supervision shift by another staff member (for example, where the shift is 'split' into 2 consecutive time periods), the staff member must ensure that a brief but adequate verbal 'handover' is given to the relieving staff member in relation to any issues which may have arisen during the first shift.

If the supervising staff member is unable to conduct active supervision at the designated time, they should contact the Assistant Principal with as much notice as possible prior to the relevant yard duty shift to ensure that alternative arrangements are made.

If the supervising staff member needs to leave yard duty during the allocated time, they should contact the Assistant Principal but should not leave the designated area until the relieving staff member has arrived in the designated area.

If the relieving staff member does not arrive for yard duty, the staff member currently on duty should ring the Assistant Principal or Principal, but should not leave the designated area until the relieving staff member has arrived in the designated area.

Students will be encouraged to speak to the supervising yard duty staff member if they require assistance during recess or lunchtime.

Classroom

The classroom teacher is responsible for the supervision of all students in their care during class.

If a teacher needs to leave the classroom unattended at any time during a lesson, they should first contact front office for assistance. The teacher should then wait until a replacement staff member has arrived at the classroom before leaving. Students can leave the classroom to go to the toilet with a partner. If they need to go to the office or first aid room, the teacher will call the office to let the staff know of their arrival.

School activities, camps and excursions

The Principal and leadership team are responsible for ensuring that students are appropriately supervised during all school activities, camps and excursions, including when external providers are engaged to conduct part or all of the activity. Appropriate supervision will be planned for school activities, camps and excursions on an individual basis, depending on the activities to be undertaken and the level of potential risk involved, and will follow the supervision requirements in the Department of Education [Excursions Policy](#).



Digital devices and virtual classroom

Warreen Primary School follows the Department's [Cybersafety and Responsible Use of Technologies Policy](#) with respect to supervision of students using digital devices.

Warreen Primary School will also ensure appropriate supervision of students participating in remote and flexible learning environments while on school site. In these cases, students will be supervised whilst using Google Classroom during learning times.

While parents are responsible for the appropriate supervision of students accessing virtual classrooms from home:

- student attendance will be monitored through Webex attendance and the submission of set tasks.
- any wellbeing or safety concerns for the student will be managed in accordance with our usual processes – refer to our Student Wellbeing and Engagement Policy and our Child Safety Responding and Reporting Policy and Procedures for further information.

Students requiring additional supervision support

Sometimes students will require additional supervision, such as students with disability or other additional needs. In these cases, the Principal or delegate will ensure arrangements are made to roster additional staff as required. This may include on yard duty, in the classroom or during school activities.

Supervision of student in emergency operating environments

In emergency circumstances our school will follow our Emergency Management Plan, including with respect to supervision.

In the event of any mandatory period of remote or flexible learning our School will follow the operations guidance issued by the Department.

COMMUNICATION

This policy will be communicated to our school community in the following ways:

- included in staff induction processes
- discussed at staff briefings or meetings, as required
- included in our staff handbook
- included as a reference in our school newsletter each term
- made available in hard copy from school administration upon request.

Information for parents and students on supervision before and after school is available on our school website and parent reminders are sent at the beginning of each term in our school newsletter.

FURTHER INFORMATION AND RESOURCES

- the Department's Policy and Advisory Library (PAL):
 - [Child Safe Standards](#)



- [Cybersafety and Responsible Use of Technologies](#)
- [Duty of Care](#)
- [Excursions](#)
- [Supervision of Students](#)
- [Visitors in Schools](#)

POLICY REVIEW AND APPROVAL

Policy last reviewed	May 2023
Approved by	Principal
Next scheduled review date	Upon commencement of operations in 2024. To ensure ongoing relevance and continuous improvement, this policy will be reviewed every 2 years thereafter.

This policy will also be updated if significant changes are made to school grounds that require a revision of Warreen Primary School's yard duty and supervision arrangements.