



Belvedere Park Primary School

YARD DUTY AND SUPERVISION POLICY

POLICY STATEMENT

Adequate supervision of students in the schoolyard is a requirement of the school's duty of care.

The school will normally satisfy the duty of care for the on-site management of students outside normal timetabled class time by allocating responsibilities for supervision to different staff.

The principal is responsible for making and administering such arrangements for supervision as are necessary according to the circumstances in the school, and teachers are responsible for carrying out their assigned supervisory duties in such a way that students are, as far as can be reasonably expected, protected from injury.

This duty extends to intervention in single-sex areas if need be by a teacher of the other gender.

GUIDELINES

As part of its duty of care the school is required to adequately supervise students for a defined period before school; at recess time and lunchtime; and after school.

This on-site supervision requires not only protection from known hazards but also protection from those that could arise (that is, those the teacher should reasonably have foreseen) and against which preventive measures could be taken.

It is essential parents/carers are kept informed as to when supervision of students is available before and after school, and that outside these times supervision and/or the collection of students is the responsibility of parents/carers. This information is clearly provided to parents/guardians on a regular basis via the school's newsletter.

Parents/carers may require their child to leave the school grounds to:

- go home for lunch
- be dismissed early from school to attend an appointment

It is important the school has a process to authorise these requests and accurate student records are maintained.

PROGRAM

A roster system will be used to timetable staff members for yard supervision.

Yard supervision will include before school, recess and lunch breaks, and after school.

In determining whether supervision of students entering or exiting the school is adequate, the principal or their nominee will consider a number of factors including:

- which entry/exit points should be or are used by students
- whether any entry or exit points should be locked, designated as out of bounds, or supervised
- road traffic conditions
- designated pick up and drop off areas

The supervision of the arrival and departure of any buses (eg OSHC) is a matter for the discretion of the principal who will consider the following:

- the number of students alighting from and boarding the bus at the school

- the age of students alighting from or boarding the bus
- the times of the arrival and departure of the bus(es)
- the location of the pick-up and drop-off points in relation to the other areas of the school
- whether supervision is required to protect students on the bus, or from unruly student behaviour when boarding or alighting from the bus

The supervision of the arrival and departure of any students on public transport is a matter for the discretion of the principal who will consider whether supervision is required to protect students on the bus, or from unruly student behaviour when boarding or alighting from the bus.

Parents/carers are discouraged from sending their children to school before the designated supervision time in the morning. Parents/carers are encouraged to pick up their child by the end of the designated end of day supervision period. Parents will also be informed via the school's newsletter the times when staff members will be rostered to undertake yard supervision before and after school each day.

The school must receive permission from a parent/carer in the event that another adult has to collect a student early from school on behalf of the parent/carer.

Students must be signed out of the school if departing before dismissal time. A record of early departures is to be kept in the Administration Office and an Early Departure slip completed for all students departing the school early.

Children arriving after the 9:00 am bell must complete a Late Pass to be handed to the classroom teacher. A record of children arriving later than 9:30 am is to be kept in the Administration Office. Students must be signed in the register by an adult and a Late Pass also completed.

Note: When a student departs from the school (following initial attendance) without authorisation, the parent/guardian will be informed immediately.

This policy is to be read in conjunction with the school's 'Duty of Care Policy'

LINKS AND APPENDICES (including processes related to this policy)

Links that are connected with this policy are:

[DET Student Supervision Policy](#)

Appendices that are connected with this policy are:

Appendix A: On-Site Supervision of Students Procedures

REVIEW CYCLE

This policy was last reviewed and approved by the school council in May 2020 and is scheduled for review in May 2024.

Appendix A

On-Site Supervision of Students Procedures

Introduction

The processes outlined below provide adequate and appropriate supervision of students in the school so the school fulfils its duty care to its students in terms of on-site supervision.

Supervision before and after school

The school will provide staff supervision for students arriving before school between 8.45 am and 9.00 am.

The school will provide staff supervision for students after school between 3.15 pm and 3.30 pm.

This information is provided to parents/guardians on a regular basis via the school newsletter. Outside of these times, the supervision and/or the collection of students is the responsibility of parents/guardians.

Sufficient teachers will be allocated by the school principal or their nominee to supervise students during these periods

Should a teacher be called away to other duties alternate supervision arrangements will be put in place in consultation with the principal or their nominee.

Supervision at recesses and lunchtime

Students are required to be adequately supervised during recesses and lunchtimes. To ensure that students are adequately supervised, a 'Yard Duty Roster' will be created each term allocating teachers to supervise students in defined areas of the school grounds during these times.

Details of the roster are communicated to teachers at staff meetings, daily bulletin and via staff noticeboards.

Unauthorised student departure from school

When a student departs from the school (following initial attendance) without authorisation, the parent/guardian will be informed immediately.

Where there is a reasonable concern for the student's safety or the safety of others, immediate contact will also be made with the police and the Department's Emergency and Security Management Branch, telephone 9589 6266 (24-hour service).

The early departure of students prior to dismissal time

Students must be signed out of the school if departing prior to dismissal time.

A record of early departures is to be kept in the Office and completed for all students departing the school early. Details will include the student's name, grade, the time and reason for departure and the name of the person collecting the student, with their proof of identification.

- No parents/carers are permitted to take students directly from the classroom.
- Students can only be collected by a responsible person 16 years and over.
- No students will be sent home on their own outside of normal dismissal time.

Arrangements for students not collected after school

Parents/guardians will be informed when the supervision of students is available before and after school hours and that supervision outside of these times and/or the collection of students is the responsibility of parents/guardians. Students remaining in the schoolyard awaiting collection after 3.30 pm will be directed to the office waiting area.

If it becomes known that a student who is normally collected from the school, remains at the school well beyond the normal time of collection, attempts will be made to contact the parents/guardians, or the emergency contact person identified by the parent/guardian in the school records.

Where all reasonable attempts have been made to locate the parents/guardian and the emergency contact persons, and the time is well beyond a reasonable time for collection, consideration will be given to contacting the police or the Department of Human Services and for them to arrange for the care and protection of the student.

Information about the whereabouts of the student will be left with appropriate friends of the student, or next-door neighbours, if known, and at the school.

Arrangements for student supervision on school camps and excursions

The school will provide supervision ratios in line with the Department's policy as outlined in the DET School Policy & Advisory Guide, depending on the nature and location of the school activity. Refer to the school's Camps Policy and Excursions Policy.