**YARD DUTY AND SUPERVISION POLICY**

**Purpose**

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

**Scope**

This policy applies to all teaching and non-teaching staff at Warragul 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 Principalis 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.

### **Before and after school**

Warragul Primary School’s grounds are supervised by school staff from 8:45am until 3:40pm. Outside of these hours, school staff will not be available to supervise students.

Parents and carers should not allow their children to attend Warragul Primary School outside of these hours. Families are encouraged to contact our Out of Hours School Care on 0408589525 for more information about the before and after school care facilities available to our school community.

If a student is not collected before supervision finishes at the end of the day, the principal or nominee 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)
* contact Victoria Police and/or the Department of Health and Human Services (Child Protection) to arrange for the supervision, care and protection of the student.

### **Yard duty**

All staff at Warragul Primary School are expected to assist with yard duty supervision and will be included in the weekly roster.

The yard duty coordinator is responsible for preparing and communicating the yard duty roster on a regular basis. At Warragul Primary School, school staff will be designated a specific yard duty area to supervise.

The designated yard duty areas for our school are:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Junior School** | **Senior School** |
| Zone 1 | Zone 1 |
|  | Zone 2 |

School staff must wear a provided safety/hi-vis vest whilst on yard duty.

**Yard duty responsibilities**

Staff who are rostered for yard duty must remain in the designated area until they are replaced by a relieving teacher.

During yard duty, supervising staff must:

* methodically move around the designated zone
* 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)
* ensure students remain in their designated year level zones
* 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 Engagement policy
* ensure that students who require first aid assistance receive it as soon as practicable
* log any incidents or near misses as appropriate on Sentral.
* 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* *Engagement and Wellbeing* policy
* ensure that students who require first aid assistance receive it as soon as practicable
* log any incidents or near misses as appropriate on Sentral

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

If the supervising staff member is unable to conduct yard duty at the designated time, they shouldcontact the yard duty coordinatorwith as much notice as possible prior to the relevant yard duty shiftto ensure that alternative arrangements are made.

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

If a relieving or next staff member does not arrive for yard duty, the staff member currently on duty should send a message to the office and not leave the designated area until a replacement staff member has arrived.

Should students require assistance during recess or lunchtime, they are encouraged to speak to the supervising yard duty staff member.

### **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 their teaching partner and/or the office. The teacher should then wait until another staff member has arrived at the classroom to supervise the class prior to leaving.

### **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 and Training [Excursions Policy](https://www2.education.vic.gov.au/pal/excursions/policy).

**Digital devices and virtual classroom**

Warragul Primary School follows the Department’s [Cybersafety and Responsible Use of Technologies Policy](https://www2.education.vic.gov.au/pal/cybersafety/policy) with respect to supervision of students using digital devices.

Warragul 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 in classrooms or the open learning area.

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

* student attendance will be monitored daily.
* 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.

**Further Information and Resources**

* the Department’s Policy and Advisory Library (PAL):
  + [Child Safe Standards](https://www2.education.vic.gov.au/pal/child-safe-standards/policy)
  + [Cybersafety and Responsible Use of Technologies](https://www2.education.vic.gov.au/pal/cybersafety/policy)
  + [Duty of Care](https://www2.education.vic.gov.au/pal/duty-of-care/policy)
  + [Excursions](https://www2.education.vic.gov.au/pal/excursions/policy)
  + [School Based Apprenticeships and Traineeships](https://www2.education.vic.gov.au/pal/school-based-apprenticeships-and-traineeships/policy)
  + [School Community Work](https://www2.education.vic.gov.au/pal/school-community-work/policy)
  + [Structured Workplace Learning](https://www2.education.vic.gov.au/pal/structured-workplace-learning/policy)
  + [Supervision of Students](https://www2.education.vic.gov.au/pal/supervision-students/policy)
  + [Visitors in Schools](https://www2.education.vic.gov.au/pal/visitors/policy)
  + [Work Experience](https://www2.education.vic.gov.au/pal/work-experience/policy)

**POLICY REVIEW AND APPROVAL**

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| --- | --- |
| Policy last reviewed | June 2022 |
| Approved by | School Council |
| Next scheduled review date | June 2024 |

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