

Yard Duty and Supervision Policy

Purpose

To ensure school staff understand their supervision and yard duty (Active Supervision) responsibilities.

Scope

The principal is responsible for ensuring that there is a well-organised and responsive system of supervision in place during school hours, before and after school, and on school excursions and camps.

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

School staff are responsible for following reasonable and lawful instructions from the principal, including instructions to provide supervision to students at specific dates, time and places.

Before and after school

Mackellar Primary School grounds are supervised by school staff from 8.50am until 9.00am. Outside of these hours, school staff will not be available to supervise students.

Parents and carers should not allow their children to attend Mackellar Primary School outside of these hours. Families are encouraged to contact Their Care on 1300 072 410. or refer to <https://theircare.com.au> for more information about 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 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.

School staff who are rostered on for before or after school supervision must follow the processes outlined below.

Yard duty

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

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

The designated yard duty areas for our school from Term 1, 2022 are attached to this policy:

Area	Location
Area 1	Basketball courts, playgrounds and surrounds, shade shelter area, all courtyard areas close to buildings (rooms 6, 7, 3 and 4).
Area 2	Canteen and playground near the canteen
Area 3	Oval, sandpit and rotunda

School staff must wear a provided safety/hi-vis vest whilst on yard duty. Safety/hi-vis vests will be stored in the cupboard in the corridor opposite the school's main office.

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 to ensure that all areas are within line of sight to at least one yard duty teacher at a time
- be alert and vigilant and promote positive behaviours with the school's Buzz Awards (for demonstrating school values)
- 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 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 XUNO
- ensure that a brief but adequate verbal 'handover' is given, and staff leave the area only when relieved by another staff member



- If the supervising staff member is unable to conduct yard duty 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 Office and/or Assistant Principal but 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 another teacher or member of the leadership team for assistance. The teacher should then wait until another teacher 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 activities. Appropriate supervision will be planned for special school activities, camps and excursions on an individual basis, depending on the activities to be undertaken and the level of potential risk involved.

Further policies:

- Duty of Care Policy
- Child Safe Standards
- Visitors Policy

Policy Review

Policy last reviewed	May 2022
Approved by	School Council
Next scheduled review date	May 2025

