

Duty of Care Policy

PURPOSE:

The purpose of this policy is to explain to our school community the non-delegable duty of care obligations that all staff at Roxburgh Park Primary owe to our students and members of the school community who visit and use the school premises.

POLICY:

“Duty of care” is a legal obligation that requires schools to take reasonable steps to reduce the risk of reasonably foreseeable harm, which can include personal injury (physical or psychological) or damage to property. The reasonable steps that our school may decide to take in response to a potential risk or hazard will depend on the circumstances of the risk.

Our school has developed policies and procedures to manage common risks in the school environment, including:

- Yard duty and Supervision
- Bullying Prevention
- Camps and Excursions
- First Aid
- Grounds Maintenance
- Student Private Property
- Child Safe Standards
- External Providers
- Emergency Management
- Volunteers
- Visitors
- Working with Children and Suitability Checks
- Mandatory Reporting
- Occupational Health and Safety

Our school also understands that it is responsible for ensuring that the school premises are kept in good repair and a duty of care is owed to students to take reasonable measures to protect them from risks of injury that should have been reasonably foreseen. The school will take reasonable care that any student (and other person) on the school premises will not be injured or damaged by reason of the state of the premises or of things done or should have been done to the premises.

Staff at our school understand that school activities involve different levels of risk and that greater measures may need to be taken to support younger students or students with a disability.

School staff, parents, carers and students are encouraged to speak to the principal to raise any concerns about risks or hazards at our school, or our duty of care obligations.

COMMUNICATION:

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

- Available publicly on our school’s website
- Included in staff handbook/manual
- Hard copy available from school administration upon request

RELATED POLICIES AND RESOURCES:

School Policy and Advisory Guide: [Duty of Care](#)

All Department policies relating to the care, health, safety and wellbeing of students including:

- [Bullying Prevention and Response](#)
- [Child Safe Standards](#)
- [Child Protection and Child Safe Standards \(PROTECT\)](#)
- [Excursions](#)
- [International Student Program \(ISP\)](#)
- [Legal Claims, Subpoenas, Summonses and Other Legal Documents](#)
- [Risk Management — Schools](#)
- [Supervision of Students](#)
- [Volunteers in Schools](#)

Other policies relevant to duty of care include:

- [Insurance for Schools](#)
- [Personal Liability of School Employees](#)
- [School Council — Liability and Legal Proceedings](#)

POLICY REVIEW AND APPROVAL:

Policy Last reviewed:	Approved by:	Scheduled for review:
September 2021	Principal – Sam Kenely	September 2024

