

YARD DUTY AND SUPERVISION POLICY

*The Currajong School takes a zero-tolerance approach to child abuse and is fully committed to ensuring that its strategies, policies, procedures, and practices meet all **Child Safe Standards as specified in Ministerial Order No. 1359 (2022)***

PURPOSE

To ensure School staff understand their supervision and yard duty 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 The Currajong School, including Teachers, Teacher Assistants, Allied Health professionals, 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.

POLICY

(a) Before and After School

The Currajong School grounds are supervised by school staff from 8.45 am until 3.10pm. Outside of these hours, school staff will not be available to supervise students.

(b) Before and After School Supervision

School staff are rostered on for yard duty before school, during recess, lunch and after school. School grounds are supervised from 8:45am at the drop off area, where students walk to their classrooms. After school, staff supervise from 3.00-3.10pm at the pickup points. Students on school grounds outside these times **will not** be supervised, unless pre-arrangement is made with Leadership.

(c) Independent Travellers

All independent travellers are to be given written consent by their parent guardian. The Currajong School staff are not responsible for students travelling to and from

school. Once students reach the school grounds students are expected to walk straight to their classroom.

Parents and carers should not allow their children to attend The Currajong School outside of these hours.

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

- advise of the supervision arrangements before School; and
- 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; or
- contact Victoria Police and/or the Department of Families, Fairness and Housing (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.

(d) Yard Duty

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

The Principal nominee (daily organiser) is responsible for preparing and communicating the yard duty roster on a regular basis. At The Currajong School, school staff will be designated a specific yard duty area to supervise.

The designated yard duty areas for our School can be seen on the yard duty roster that is distributed to all staff each term, it is also available on Sentral homepage on the Daily Bulletin.

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

During yard duty, supervising staff must:

- At The Currajong School if allocated a designated activity or play area, the staff should actively engage with the students teaching games and role modelling behaviour to teach and demonstrate social learning,
- If on roaming, methodically move around the designated area and are required to move in a clockwise or anticlockwise position, to ensure that all areas are within line of sight to at least one-yard duty staff member at a time;

- be alert and vigilant;
- Staff are to be aware, alert and vigilant with all students, and understanding the student needs;
- 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 your School's *Student Engagement Wellbeing and Inclusion 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; and
- if being relieved of their yard duty shift by another staff member (for example, where the shift is 'split' into two 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 should contact the daily organiser or Leader 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 a leader 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/calling for the individual 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.

(e) Classroom

The classroom teacher and teacher assistant/s are 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 inform the teacher assistants and inform the classroom teacher in the next classroom if necessary. The teacher should then wait until another staff member has arrived at the classroom to supervise the class prior to leaving if this is deemed necessary.

(f) 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. 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.

EVALUATION

This policy will be reviewed as per our three-year review cycle or more often if necessary due to changes in regulations or circumstances.

Approval date:	Approved by:	Next review:
July 2024	Principal	July 2027



The Currajong School acknowledges the traditional owners of this country throughout Australia and their continuing connection to land and community. We pay our respects to them and their cultures and to the Elders past, present and emerging.