

CONCORD SCHOOL POLICY

MANAGEMENT

YARD DUTY AND SUPERVISION (WATSONIA CAMPUS)



Help for non-English speakers

If you need help to understand the information in this policy please contact Concord School on 9467 3972.

PURPOSE

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

SCOPE

This policy applies to all teaching and non-teaching staff at Concord 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 Principal is 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

Students at the Watsonia Campus are supervised by their classroom teacher from 8.45am in the classroom until 3pm when after school care commences. Students are supervised from the buses in the morning by ES staff and to the buses in the afternoon by class teachers and ES staff. Two rostered teachers and one ES staff member supervise students on the bus to the Bundoora Campus in the afternoon.

Parents and carers should not allow their children to attend Concord School outside of these hours. Families are encouraged to contact TheirCare if supervision is required before or after school hours.

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 Families, Fairness and Housing (Child Protection) to arrange for the supervision, care and protection of the student.

Yard duty

Teaching staff and the majority of ES staff at Concord School are expected to assist with yard duty supervision and will be included in the weekly roster.

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

The designated yard duty areas are

- Multi Purpose room
- Playground area
- Oval area

School staff must wear a provided hi-vis vest whilst on yard duty. Hi-vis vests will be stored in classrooms. Staff who are rostered for yard duty must remain in the designated area until they are replaced by a relieving teacher. When staff are relieved of their yard duty shift by another staff member (for example, where the shift is 'split' into two consecutive time periods), a brief but adequate verbal 'handover' will be given to the next staff member in relation to any issues which may have arisen during the first shift.

During yard duty, supervising staff must:

- methodically move around the designated zone
- ensure that there is no area of the yard that is not in view of at least one staff member
- 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 and Wellbeing* policy
- ensure that students who require first aid assistance receive it as soon as practicable

If the supervising staff member is unable to conduct yard duty at the designated time, they should organise a swap with as much notice as possible prior to the relevant yard duty shift.

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

If the next staff member does not arrive for yard duty, the staff member currently on duty should call 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 the team leader for assistance. The teacher should then wait until another staff member has arrived at the classroom to supervise the class prior to leaving. Teachers cannot leave students under the supervision of an ES staff member.

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, and will follow the supervision requirements in the Department of Education and Training [Excursions Policy](#).

Digital devices and virtual classroom

Concord School follows the Department's [Cybersafety and Responsible Use of Technologies Policy](#) with respect to supervision of students using digital devices.

Concord School will also ensure appropriate supervision of students participating in remote and flexible learning environments while on school site.

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.

Supervision of student in emergency operating environments

In emergency circumstances our school will follow our Emergency Management Plan, including with respect to supervision.

In the event of any mandatory period of remote or flexible learning our School will follow the operations guidance issued by the Department.

COMMUNICATION

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

- Included in staff induction processes
- Discussed at staff briefings or meetings, as required
- Included in the Staff Handbook
- Available publicly on school website
- Hard copy available from school administration upon request

FURTHER INFORMATION AND RESOURCES

The Department's Policy and Advisory Library (PAL):

- [Child Safe Standards](#)
- [Cybersafety and Responsible Use of Technologies](#)
- [Duty of Care](#)
- [Excursions](#)
- [Supervision of Students](#)
- [Visitors in Schools](#)

POLICY REVIEW AND APPROVAL

Policy last reviewed	July 2022
Approved by	Principal
Next scheduled review date	July 2024

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