

Dorset Primary School No.5132

DUTY OF CARE POLICY

PURPOSE

This policy outlines the non-delegable duty of care obligations that all staff at Dorset 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 we may decide to take in response to a potential risk/hazard will depend on the circumstances of the risk. We have policies in place to address common risks in the school environment, including:

- Yard duty and Supervision
- Bullying Prevention
- Camps and Excursions
- First Aid
- Child Safe Standards
- Emergency Management
- Volunteers
- Visitors
- Working with Children and Suitability Checks
- Child Safety Reporting Obligations (including Mandatory Reporting)
- Occupational Health and Safety

Staff at Dorset understand that school activities involve different levels of risk and that particular care may need to be taken to support individual students. We also understand our responsibility in ensuring that school premises are kept in good repair. We take reasonable steps to reduce the risk of members of our community suffering injury or damage because of the state of the premises. School staff, parents/carers and students can speak to the Principal to raise concerns about risks or hazards at our school, or duty of care obligations.

External Providers

We acknowledge that our non-delegable duty means that we are required to take reasonable steps to reduce the risk of reasonably foreseeable harm when external providers have been engaged to work with our students. Our *Visitors Policy* and *Camps and Excursions Policy* include information on the safety and care of our students when engaging external providers.

FURTHER INFORMATION AND RESOURCES

- the Department’s Policy and Advisory Library: [Duty of Care](#)
- the Department’s Policy and Advisory Library: [Structured Workplace Learning](#)

REVIEW CYCLE

This policy was last updated in February 2021 and is scheduled for review in February 2022.