

# Dorset Primary School No.5132

## YARD DUTY AND SUPERVISION POLICY

### 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 Dorset PS, 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, times and places.

### POLICY

#### Before and after school

Dorset PS's grounds are supervised by school staff from **8:45am until 3:45pm**. Outside of these hours, school staff will not be available to supervise students.

Parents and carers should not allow their children to attend Dorset PS outside of these hours. Families are encouraged to contact Big Childcare at [dorset@bigchildcare.com](mailto:dorset@bigchildcare.com) or refer to <https://bigchildcare.com/> 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 Dorset PS 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. All Dorset PS school staff will be designated a specific yard duty area to supervise.

The designated yard duty areas for our school are:

Zone	Area
Zone 1: Foundation Area	
Zone 2: Top Area	Upper basketball court, upper portables, gymnasium, chicken coop, garden.
Zone 3: Middle Area	Peace garden, canteen area, Foundation breezeway, Year 5/6 breezeway, Year 3/4 playground, Year 6 playground, middle eating area, lower portable wing.
Zone 4: Oval	Lower portable wing, oval, tennis court.
Zone 5: Sanctuary	Sanctuary, oval.

School staff wear a safety/hi-vis vest whilst on yard duty. 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
- Be alert and vigilant
- Intervene immediately if potentially dangerous or inappropriate behaviour is observed
- Enforce behavioural standards and implement appropriate consequences for breaches of safety rules, in accordance with school discipline methods
- Ensure that students who require first aid assistance receive it as soon as practicable
- Follow up on any and all incidents observed during Yard Duty
- When changing over supervising teachers, 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
- **Carry their mobile phone with them in case of emergency.**

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 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 or contact the office. Staff are not to 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 their adjacent neighbouring teacher for short-term assistance. The teacher should then wait until another staff member 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. The teacher in charge of the excursion or event will need to approve supervision with the Principal prior to the event.

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.

### **REVIEW CYCLE**

This policy was last updated in July 2019 and is scheduled for review in July 2020. This policy will also be updated if significant changes are made to school grounds that require a revision of Dorset PS's Yard Duty and Supervision Policy.

