

# OAKLEIGH SOUTH PRIMARY SCHOOL

## YARD DUTY & SUPERVISION POLICY



### Help for non-English speakers

If you need help to understand the information in this policy please contact the school on (03) 9570 1016.

### PURPOSE

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

### SCOPE

This policy applies to all teaching and non-teaching staff at Oakleigh South Primary 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

Oakleigh South Primary School's grounds are supervised by school staff from 8.45am until 9.00am before school, and 3.30pm until 3.45pm after school. Outside of these hours, school staff will not be available to supervise students. Before and after school, school staff will be available to supervise the school oval, courts and entrance of the school.

Parents and carers will be advised through regular reminders in our newsletter that they should not allow their children to attend Oakleigh South Primary School outside of these hours. Families will be encouraged to contact Camp Australia on 1300 105 343 or refer to [info@campaustralia.com.au](mailto:info@campaustralia.com.au) 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 and the parent consents)
- contact Victoria Police and/or Child Protection to arrange for the supervision, care and protection of the student.

### **Yard duty**

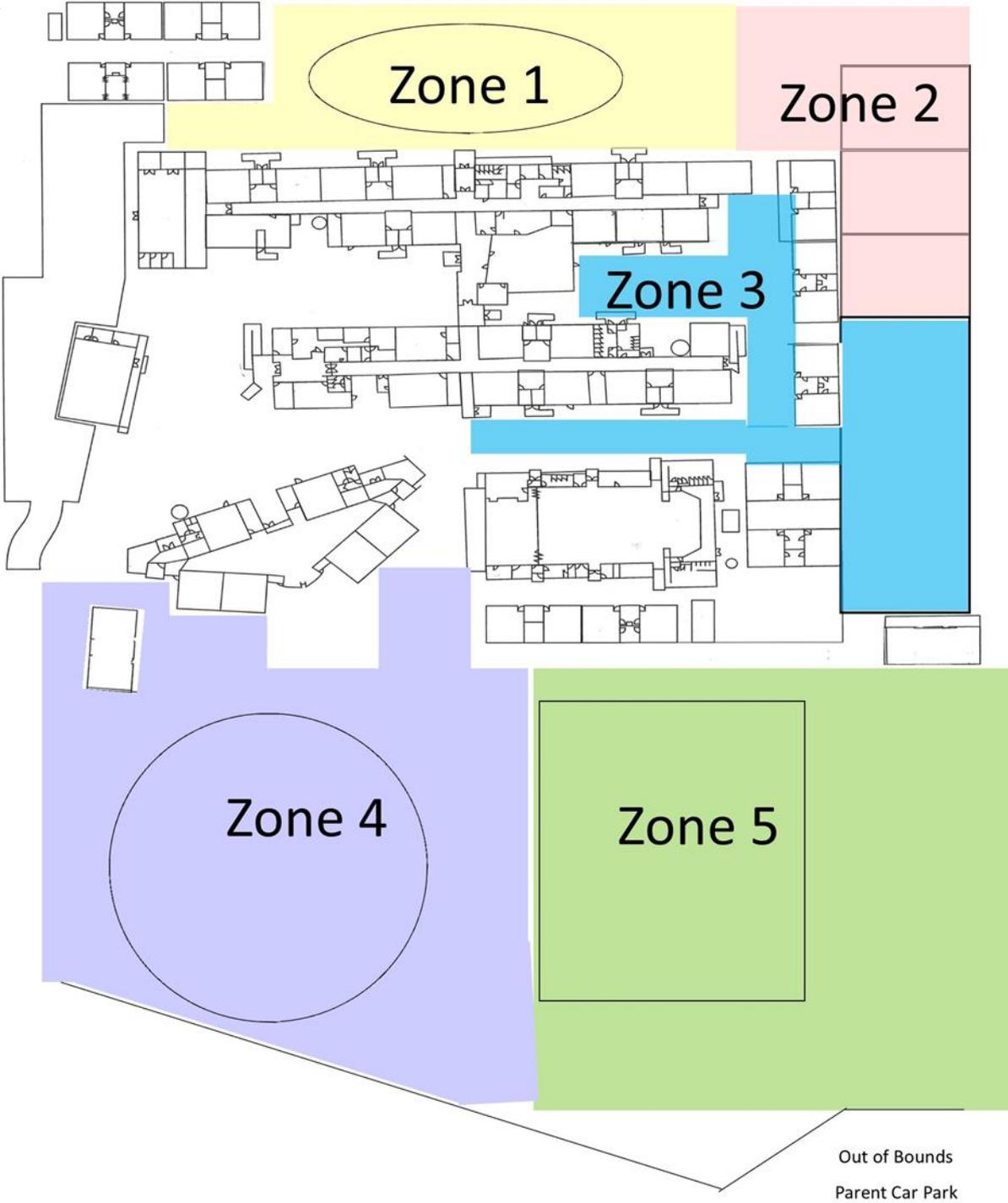
All staff at Oakleigh South Primary School are expected to assist with yard duty supervision and will be included in the weekly yard duty timetable.

The Principal and Assistant Principals are responsible for preparing and communicating the yard duty timetable on a regular basis. At Oakleigh South Primary School, school staff will be designated a specific yard duty area to supervise.

The designated yard duty areas for our school as at Term 3, 2022, are outlined below.

<b>Zone</b>	<b>Area</b>
Zone 1	Junior playground
Zone 2	Undercover courts
Zone 3	Quiet Area and basketball courts
Zone 4	Oval and playground
Zone 5	Soccer pitch

# YARD DUTY ZONES



## **Yard duty equipment**

School staff must:

- Wear a provided safety/hi-vis vest whilst on yard duty, carry their phone and supplied yard duty first aid bag at all times during supervision. Safety/hi-vis vests and yard duty first aid bags will be stored in the staff room.
- Be familiar with student health and safety information (medical alerts) stored in the yard duty first aid bags.
- Return yard duty equipment after the period of supervision or hand to the relieving staff member.

## **Yard duty responsibilities**

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:

- methodically move around the designated zone ensuring active supervision of all students
- 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 your school's *Student Engagement and Wellbeing* policy
- ensure that students who require first aid assistance receive it as soon as practicable
- log any incidents or near misses as appropriate on GradeXpert and/or an incident form
- if being relieved of their yard duty shift by another staff member (for example, where the shift is 'split' into 2 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.
- where safe to do so, approach any unknown visitor who is observed on school grounds without a clear legitimate purpose, and ensure they have a visitor pass and have signed in (excluding drop off and collection periods)
- ensure students remain in their designated year level zones

If being relieved of their yard duty shift by another staff member (for example, where the shift is 'split' into 2 consecutive time periods), the staff member must ensure that a brief but adequate verbal 'handover' is given to the relieving staff member in relation to any issues which may have arisen during the first shift.

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

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If a relieving staff member does not arrive for yard duty, the staff member currently on duty should send a message to the office or contact the Assistant Principals, and not leave the designated area until a replacement staff member has arrived.

Students will be encouraged to speak to the supervising yard duty staff member if they require assistance during recess or lunchtime.

### **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 Year Level Team Leader or the classroom teacher in the nearest classroom for assistance. The teacher should then wait until another staff member has arrived at the classroom to supervise the class prior to leaving.

In the occurrence of a wet day timetable, year level teachers should ensure that students remain supervised in their classroom by a year level teacher. Teachers should contact the Year Level Team Leader or the closest classroom teacher to arrange supervision and breaks.

### **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 activity. Appropriate supervision will be planned for 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**

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

Oakleigh South Primary School will also ensure appropriate supervision of students participating in remote and flexible learning environments while on school site. In these cases, students will be supervised in the Digital Technologies Lab or a designated break out space (VHAP participants).

### **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 Assistant Principals 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:

- Available publicly on our school's website
- Included in staff induction processes
- Included in our staff handbook
- Discussed in staff meetings
- Made available in hard copy from school administration upon request
- Information for parents and students on supervision before and after school is available on our school website and parent reminders are sent each term in our school newsletter.

## **RELATED POLICIES AND RESOURCES**

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

- [Child Safe Standards](#)
- [Cybersafety and Responsible Use of Technologies](#)
- [Duty of Care](#)
- [Excursions](#)
- [School Based Apprenticeships and Traineeships](#)
- [School Community Work](#)
- [Structured Workplace Learning](#)
- [Supervision of Students](#)
- [Visitors in Schools](#)
- [Work Experience](#)

## **POLICY REVIEW AND APPROVAL**

Policy last reviewed	08/07/2022
Approved by	Principal
Next scheduled review date	08/07/2024

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