



## Yard Duty and Supervision Policy



### Help for non-English speakers

If you need help to understand this policy, please contact Eaglehawk Primary School 03 54463722.

### Purpose

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

### Scope

This policy applies to all teaching and non-teaching staff at Eaglehawk 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

Eaglehawk Primary School's grounds are supervised by school staff from 8.30am until 3.15pm. Outside of these hours, school staff will not be available to supervise students.

Before school, school staff will supervise the basketball court and turf areas only. After school, school staff will supervise the back gate (Brazier Street) and front entrance Church Street crossing.

Parents and carers will be advised through regular reminders in our newsletter that they should not allow their children to attend Eaglehawk Primary School outside of these hours. Families will be encouraged to contact YMCA on 5444 6666 or refer to [www.bendigo.ymca.org.au](http://www.bendigo.ymca.org.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:



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- 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 Eaglehawk Primary School are expected to assist with yard duty supervision and will be included in the weekly roster.

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

### Yard duty zones

The designated yard duty areas for our school Term 1 2022 are:

Zone	Area
Zone 1	Catford Park including Sandpit and Playgrounds
Zone 2	Basketball Courts, Toilets, Turf and outside 5/6 & art rooms
Zone 3	Alternate program (Music Room)
Zone 4	Front of school & beside church - out of bounds





### **Yard duty equipment**

School staff must wear a provided safety/hi-vis vest whilst on yard duty. Safety/hi-vis vests will be stored in each classroom.

### **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 school staff must:

- methodically move around the designated zone ensuring active supervision of all students - staff 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 teacher at a time.
- 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
- 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 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.

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 is unable to conduct yard duty at the designated time, they should contact the Principal or Principal delegate 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 Principal or Principal delegate but should not leave the designated area until the relieving staff member has arrived in the designated area.

If the relieving staff member does not arrive for yard duty, the staff member currently on duty should send a message to the office and not leave the designated area until a relieving 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. Refer to School Wide Positive Behaviour Supports (SWPBS) handbook to follow the school's student disciplinary procedures.

If a teacher needs to leave the classroom unattended at any time during a lesson, they should first contact the office for assistance. The teacher should then wait until a replacement staff member has arrived at the classroom before 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 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](#).

## Policy Review and Approval

Policy last reviewed	20.6.22
Approved by	Principal Fiona Lindsay
Next scheduled review date	20.6.24