

# LONGWOOD PRIMARY SCHOOL

1-21 Hurley St  
LONGWOOD 3665



## YARD DUTY AND SUPERVISION POLICY

### PURPOSE

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

### SCOPE

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

Longwood Primary School's grounds are supervised by school staff from 8:30am until 3:45pm. Outside of these hours, school staff will not be available to supervise students.

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 Longwood Primary School are expected to assist with yard duty supervision.

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The Principal is responsible for preparing and communicating the yard duty roster on a regular basis. At Longwood Primary School all staff are expected to integrate in with the children as they play.

## **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:

- where safe to do so, approach any unknown visitor who is observed on school grounds without a clear legitimate purpose, and ensure they have signed in (excluding drop off and collection periods)
- 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

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 Principal or an ES 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](#).

## **Digital devices and virtual classroom**

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

Longwood 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 and include content on where students will undertake virtual and remote learning while at school break out space/ common area.

While parents are responsible for the appropriate supervision of students accessing virtual classrooms from home:

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- student attendance will be monitored
- 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.

## COMMUNICATION

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

- Available on the school website
- Included in staff induction processes
- Discussed at staff briefings or meetings, as required
- 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 at the beginning of each term in our school newsletter.

## FURTHER INFORMATION AND RESOURCES

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	March 2023
Approved by	Principal
Next scheduled review date	March 2025

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