

# Supervision Policy

On and off-site, external providers, camps and excursions



## Purpose

St Anthony's Primary School is a school which operates with the consent of the Catholic Archbishop of Melbourne and is owned, operated and governed by Melbourne Archdiocese Catholic Schools Ltd (MACS), where formation and education are based on the principles of Catholic doctrine, and where the teachers are outstanding in true doctrine and uprightness of life.

Consistent with St Anthony's Primary School vision of the education programs, we aim to empower students to encounter the future with respect, courage and kindness, enriched by life-giving relationships and inspired to bring the Gospel to life.

St Anthony's Primary School and all teachers have a duty of care to ensure the safety and wellbeing of all students by ensuring appropriate supervision at all times. At St Anthony's Primary School, the adequate supervision of students is the responsibility of all staff. This policy requires all staff to take such measures that are reasonable in the circumstances to protect students from the risk of harm that could reasonably have been foreseen.

## Aims

To provide adequate and appropriate supervision of students in the school, including:

- all indoor and outdoor activities
- activities that occur off site
- activities involving external providers
- school sponsored activities that occur outside school hours.

## Policy

Supervision will be provided to students that takes into account the degree of care needed for the protection of students and having regard to:

- their age, skill and experience
- any physical and/or intellectual impairments
- medical conditions
- known behavioural characteristics
- the nature of activities being undertaken and hazards.

Supervising staff will receive first aid training and the school will ensure adequate first aid facilities are available with regard to the nature of the activities being undertaken (refer to First Aid Policy).

Accidents and incidents will be dealt with promptly through appropriate treatment and/or intervention.

Accidents and incidents will be recorded in the Accident and Incident Register and follow up and remedial actions undertaken as appropriate to the particular situation and in accordance with relevant policies.

## Indoor and outdoor activities on school site

The following requirements will be followed in regard to indoor and outdoor activities on the school site:

- Teachers are responsible for supervising the students in their class at all times while they are in charge of their class.
- Students will be supervised in all activities that are undertaken as part of the classroom routine, as well as for activities that are not part of the regular routine.
- Adequate age appropriate supervision in class, including consideration of the nature activities being undertaken to ensure proper use of plant and equipment, proper handling of any hazardous substances and use of relevant protective equipment.
- If teachers need to leave their class for any reason, they must ensure that their class is being supervised by another authorised teacher.
- School officers, trainee teachers or visiting teachers are not authorised to be responsible for a class in the absence of a designated class teacher.
- Teachers must exercise due diligence in designing activities that take safety and care into consideration for all students with even greater care for younger students or students at risk.
- Trainee teachers, school officers, parent helpers and visiting teachers may work with one or more students in small group work, but only under the supervision and direction of the classroom teacher.
- Classroom rules are designed at the start of each year to highlight expectations, set appropriate boundaries and assist the smooth conduct of the class.

## Yard duty

- Supervision of students is the responsibility of all staff.
- A roster system is used to timetable staff members for yard supervision.
- Yard supervision includes before school, recess and lunch breaks, and after school.
- Teachers are asked to be prompt to duty in their designated area and should not leave the designated area until relieved or the children move to their lines at the second bell. Teachers to remain on duty until all students are collected. Teachers are to be visible and active during yard duty.
- Learning Support Officers (LSO) may be rostered on yard duty but must have a teacher rostered with them.
- Parents will be informed regularly via the newsletter that gates are not opened until 8.40am. Once gates are opened at 8.40am staff members are rostered to take yard duty. Parents are discouraged from sending their children to school before this time.
- Parents will also be informed via the newsletter that staff members will not be rostered to undertake yard supervision after 3:45 each day. Parents are required to make sure that their children have been collected, have left the school grounds by this time or are in After School Care. Students still in or about the school yard after that time will be brought to the school office by the supervising teacher and parents contacted.
- The duty roster includes the yard, sickbay and students with additional needs.
  - The yard supervision roster requires staff members to undertake yard duty before school, for half of recess or half of lunchtime, or after school on specific days.
- Staff members are allocated First Aid duty for half of recess and lunchtime.

- The staff member on duty before school is asked to unlock the gates and supervise.
- Students should not be playing with balls before and after school. Staff are asked to monitor this.
- Teachers completing yard duty after school should lock the gates, bike shed and close and internal doors to school.
- The Deputy Principal is responsible for coordinating the roster, and for negotiating specific duty times or days with individual staff members.
- The roster requires a minimum of three staff members on duty at recesses and lunch times at any one time, each responsible for supervising a designated area of the school. A fourth staff member is allocated to first aid. A fifth may be required for supervision of students with additional needs.
- One staff member is allocated to before school and two for after school duty.
- Yard duty staff members are required to wear a visy vest and provided with a bum bag containing basic first aid supplies and asthma medication.
- Staff members should be aware of the medical alert procedures (see medical alert posters, the First Aid Policy and the Anaphylaxis Policy)
- Replacement Teachers are responsible for the yard duties of staff members they are replacing or yard duties allocated by the Deputy Principal, with the exception of before and after school duty. The Deputy Principal ensures that Replacement Teachers are aware of the yard duty procedures (included in the Replacement Teacher handbook.
- Staff members who are aware that they cannot fulfil their yard duty obligations due being off-site and not being replaced in their absence, either make a swap with another staff member or discuss the matter with the Deputy Principal.
- Staff are required to wear hats during Terms 1 and 4.
- Staff on yard supervision must approach intruders or unknown people (who are not wearing a Visitors' Badge) in the yard.
- A playground roster is displayed in classrooms and in areas that can be seen from the yard. Teachers will support the implementation of the roster, however it can be modified at their discretion and with regard to the safety of others.
- Students eating outside are to be sitting on the seats available in the playground. Staff are asked monitor this.
- Students are required to place rubbish in the appropriate bins. Teachers are asked to monitor the neatness of the yard and may ask students to pick up rubbish.
- Younger students or students with additional needs/a disability may need higher levels of supervision.
- The Wet Day roster is written by the Deputy Principal and ensures that all staff members have a 15 minute recess and 30 minute lunch break (refer to the 'Wet Duty Roster' on the Staffroom noticeboard and emailed to all staff).
- The decision to implement or cancel the Wet Day program is made by a member of the leadership team.

## Off-site activities including camps, excursions and local functions

The following requirements will be followed in regard to off-site activities including camps, excursions and local functions:

- For each offsite activity, there is a designated teacher-in charge.
- All teachers and assistants must refer to the teacher-in-charge for decision-making, changes in direction or programs, or issues of concern.
- All teachers are responsible for all of the students in the activity.
- Helpers in the activity are there to support teachers, but are not authorised to make decisions for the group.
- Teachers must exercise due diligence in designing activities that take safety and care into consideration for all students, with even greater care for younger students.
- Teachers need to use a method of accounting for all students at any given point during the activity.
- If students need to use public toilets, they should be accompanied to the toilet block by an adult so as to monitor their safety at all times.

A record of the activity, excursion or camp will be completed by the Teacher-in-charge of the activity, and given to the principal, for approval, prior to the activity. This includes a risk assessment for the activity proposed.

- Any accompanying or assisting non-teaching adult is required to have a current Working with Children Check (WWCC).

## Activities involving external providers – on site or off-site

The following requirements will be followed in regard to activities involving external providers, either on the school site or off-site:

- The school is responsible for students at all times, and this responsibility cannot be delegated to others.
- The classroom teacher, or teacher in charge of the group is responsible for the group at all times.
- When an external provider is involved in working with a class or group of students a teacher will be present throughout the activity. E.g. Swimming, camp activities, guest speaker on site.
- External providers are required to sign in at the school office, and wear a Visitor's Identification Card.
- External Providers must have a WWCC. The WWCC Number must be recorded by the teacher organising the activity.
- A record of the activity, excursion or camp will be completed by the teacher-in-charge of the activity, and given to the principal, for approval, prior to the activity.
- If external providers are working with students 1:1, they will be within the supervision and line of sight of other teachers in the school, e.g. music lessons, NDIS providers.
- If external providers, such as psychologists are providing 1:1 testing, the schedule is monitored by office staff or a school leader.

## Before and after school supervision

The school yard will be unlocked and supervised at 8:40 am before the start of school and for 3:45 pm after the end of school classes. Students who remain in the school grounds after this time will be taken to the school office to await collection by their parents. If the parents do not come to collect their children, a phone call will be made to the parents or the emergency contact if the parents cannot be contacted.

The school is committed to ensuring student safety however parental co-operation is essential to managing safety issues immediately before and immediately after school.

As applicable, school activities (such as sport or band practice) arranged before or after school, will have appropriate supervision in place for attending students depending on the time and location of the activity.

Parents will be informed of the school's supervision arrangements and made aware that students who attend school outside established supervision times may not be supervised and may not receive the care that is normal during the school day.

This policy will be implemented in conjunction with related policies. All supervising staff, including part-time teachers, replacement teachers and casual relief teachers are required to familiarise themselves with policies relating to the supervision of students.

Any queries or points of clarification should be referred to the Principal or the Deputy Principal.


# Implementation

This policy will be implemented through a combination of:

- staff training
- effective communication and incident notification procedures
- effective record keeping procedures
- initiation of corrective actions where necessary.

# Related School Policies

- Student Behaviour Policy
- Child Safe Policy
- Child safe risk assessment
- Child Protection -Code of Conduct
- Duty of Care Policy
- Excursion/Camps Risk Management Guidelines
- First Aid policy
- Off-Site Supervision of Students Policy
- Anti- Bullying Policy

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