

Murrumbeena Primary School Policy



Yard Duty Supervision Policy



Help for non-English speakers

If you need help to understand the information in this policy, please contact the Principal or Assistant Principal on 9568 1300.

PURPOSE

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

SCOPE

This policy applies to all teaching and non-teaching staff at Murrumbeena 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 Assistant 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, 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

Murrumbeena Primary School'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 will be advised through our school website and regular reminders in the Murrumbeena Primary School newsletter, that they should not allow their children to attend Murrumbeena Primary School outside of these hours. Families will be encouraged to contact on 0437 719 731 or refer to www.theircare.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 Assistant Principal, as soon as practicable, may/will 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

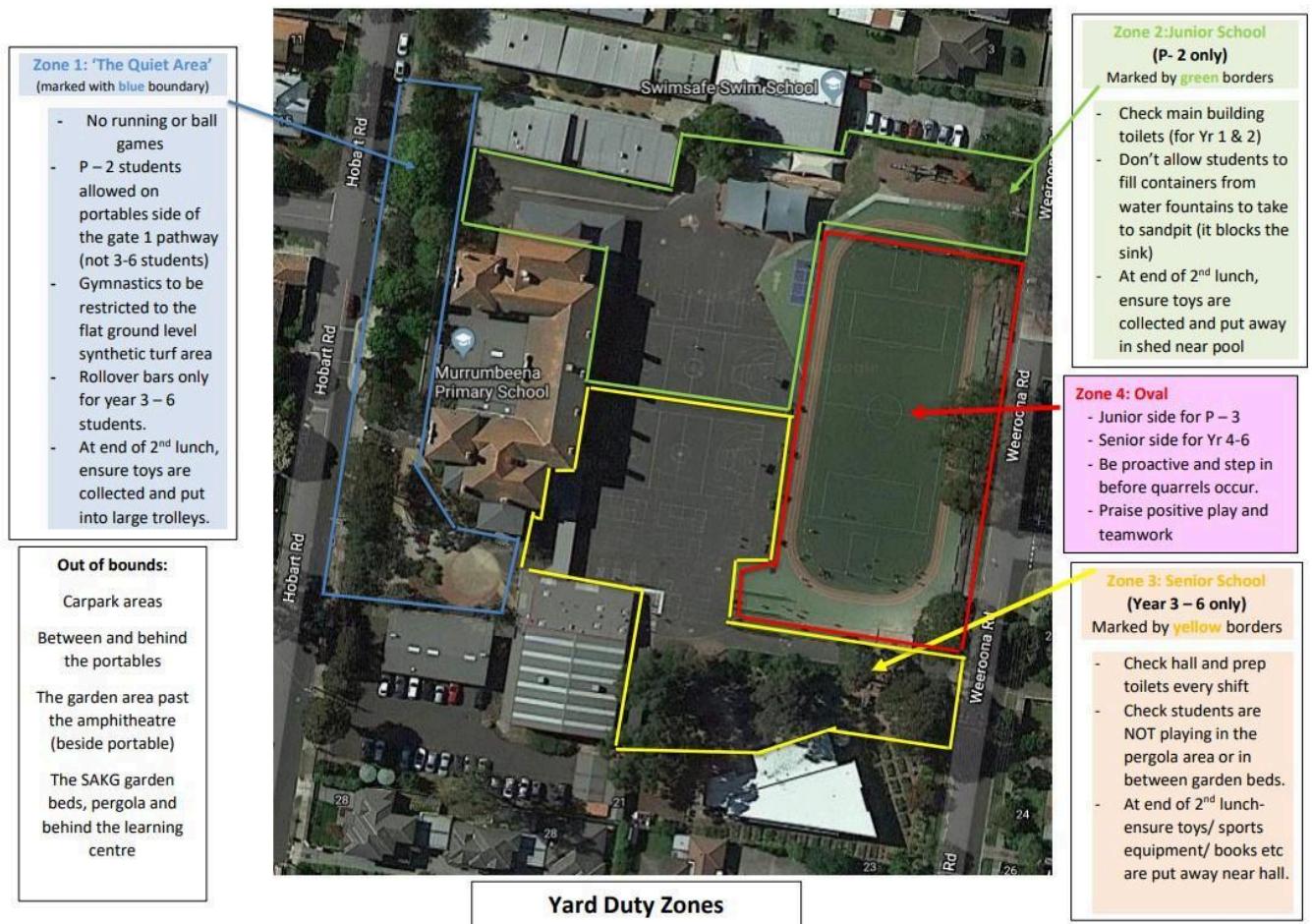
- attempt to contact the emergency contacts
- place the student in an out of school hours care program (if available and the parent consents)
- contact Victoria Police and/or Child Protection to arrange for the supervision, care and protection of the student.

Yard duty

All staff at Murrumbeena Primary School are expected to assist with yard duty supervision and will be included in the roster.

The Assistant Principal is responsible for preparing and communicating the yard duty roster on a regular basis. Staff will be designated a specific yard duty area to supervise.

Yard duty zones



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 the staffroom
- carry the yard duty first aid bag at all times during supervision. The yard duty first aid bag will be stored in the staffroom
- Be familiar with the yard duty information pack containing student health and safety information stored in the staffroom
- Yard duty equipment must be returned after the period of supervision or handed to the relieving staff member
- Teacher on 2nd duty- leave enough time to get students to pack up outside play equipment.

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 or until the end of their designated duty.

During yard duty, supervising school staff must:

- methodically move around the designated zone ensuring active supervision of all students
- 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
- refer students to the Reflection Room for a restorative conversation with a member of the leadership team when:
 - the situation is considered too complex to be effectively resolved by the supervising staff member, or
 - a student has experienced physical harm beyond a minor or accidental incident.
- log any incidents or near misses as appropriate on Compass Chronicle

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 Assistant Principal with as much notice as possible, prior to the relevant yard duty shift, to ensure that alternative arrangements can be 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 the relieving staff member does not arrive for yard duty, the staff member currently on duty should send a message to the office/call the Assistant Principal 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.

If a teacher needs to leave the class 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](#).

Digital devices and virtual classroom

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

COMMUNICATION

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

- On the school website
- Included in staff induction processes
- Included in yard duty folder
- Discussed at staff briefings or meetings, as required
- Made available in hard copy from school administration upon request

Students requiring additional supervision support

Sometimes students will require additional supervision, such as students with disability or other additional needs. In these cases, the Assistant Principal or delegate 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 students 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.

Other Areas Requiring Supervision

When students are moving around the school, they are expected to travel in 'safe lines', with students positioned in alphabetical order. The teacher leads the group and monitors students to ensure they move safely and sensibly between locations within the school.

Students requiring the use of the toilets during class time are expected to follow the procedures below:

- **Foundation and Year 1:** Students use the junior toilets in the main building. Students attend in pairs, with the accompanying student waiting outside the toilet entrance door.
- **Years 2–6:** Students use the internal toilets located in either the main building or the Learning Centre, depending on their location at the time. Students attend independently.

All toilet visits are recorded and monitored to ensure appropriate use of time and timely return to class.

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

- [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	May 2026
Approved by	Principal
Next scheduled review date	May 2028 Mandatory Review every 2 Years

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