

Yard Duty and Supervision

Policy



Help for non-English speakers

If you need help to understand this policy, please contact Kororoit Creek Primary School (KCPS) at kororoit.creek.ps@education.vic.gov.au.

Purpose

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

Scope

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

KCPS grounds are supervised by school staff from 8.45 am until 3.30pm. 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 back, the side, and the front of the school.

Parents and carers should not allow their children to attend KCPS outside of the hours of supervision. Families are encouraged to contact YMCA Out of School Hours Care program or refer to the [YMCA website](#) 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:

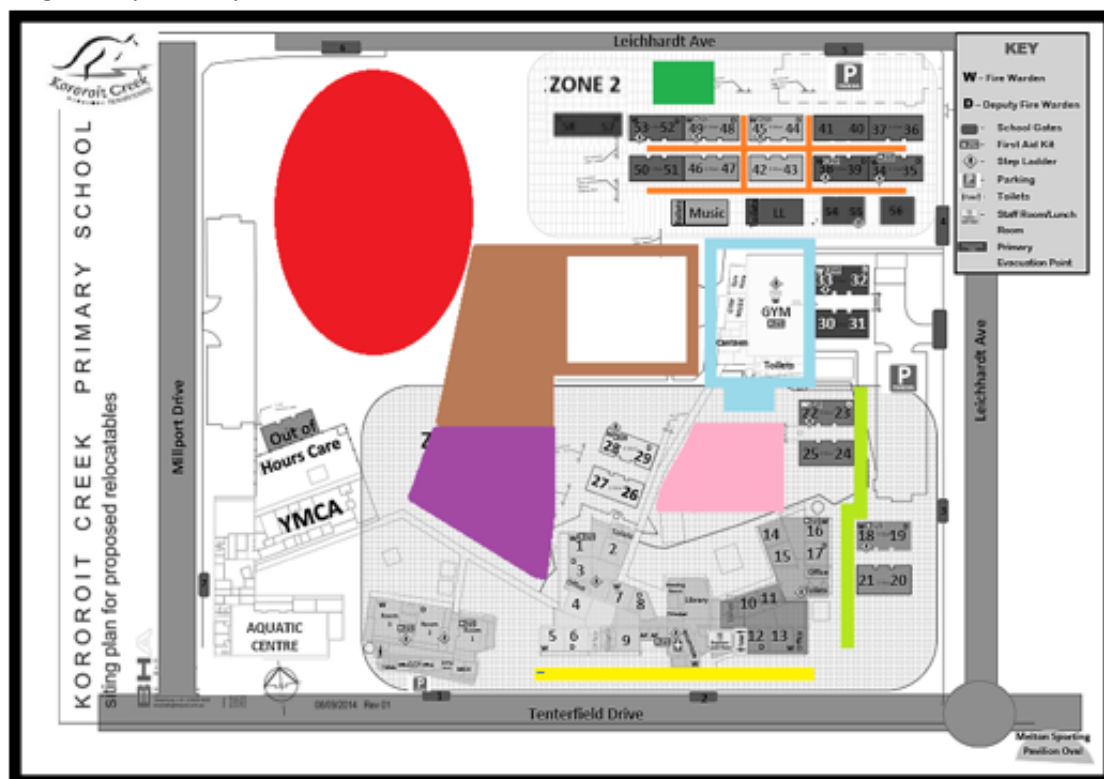
- attempt to contact the parents/carers
- attempt to contact the emergency contacts
- place the student in an out of school hours care program (if available and the parent consents)
- contact Victoria Police and/or Child Protection to arrange for the supervision, care and protection of the student.

School staff who are rostered on for before or after school supervision must follow the processes outlined below.

Yard Duty

All staff at KCPS are expected to assist with yard duty supervision and will be included in the weekly roster. The Principal nominee is responsible for preparing and communicating the yard duty roster on a regular basis. At KCPS, school staff will be designated a specific yard duty area to supervise.

The designated yard duty areas for our school as at Term 1 2023 are as follows:



Area 1: Quiet area- no ball games. Sweeping H05-H13

Area 2: Sandpit and playgrounds – appropriate use of sand. Sweeping H03 – pool gate.

Area 3: No ball games on the deck
Checking toilets, checking canteen lines
Full sweep around the gym
Checking larger playground as part of sweep

Area 4A: Sweeping back half of the oval near goals and area next to H57/58
Area 4B: Sweeping front of the oval near YMCA and goals
Area 4C: Sweeping the centre section of the oval

Area 5: In between portables - sweeping
Quiet area – no ball games on decks – no running
Sweeping supervision H34 – H35
Checking toilets next to Learning Lab

Area 6: Basketball court – basketball, netball, downball (non-kicking sports). No physical contact.
Sweeping supervision of ramp toilets, basketball court and behind H27 & H28

Area 7: Quiet area – H16 & H17
No ball games on the deck H22 – H25

Area 8: Agora. Appropriate ball games (not soccer, football or basketball)
Checking toilets next to H02 & H10
No children in or running through garden beds

Area 9: Gagapit – following direction of play
20 students max for shorter, quicker games
Ensure children are lining up

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

Staff who are rostered for yard duty must remain in the designated area until they are replaced by a relieving teacher.

During yard duty, supervising 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)
- 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 our 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 by contacting the Principal or Assistant Principal

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 or Leading Teacher 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 front office 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 they should contact the front office but 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 classroom unattended at any time during a lesson, they should first contact their neighbouring classroom or Area Assistant Principal for assistance. The teacher should then wait until another staff member has arrived at the classroom to supervise the class prior to 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 activities. Appropriate supervision will be planned for special 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](#).

Kororoit Creek Primary School has a zero tolerance for any form of child abuse

Digital devices and virtual classroom

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

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 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 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:

- Included in staff induction processes
- Available through Compass
- Discussed at staff briefings or meetings, as required
- Information for parents and students on supervision before and after school is available on our school website

Further information and resources

- the 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	10 th February 2023
Approved by	Bethany Riseley, Principal
Next scheduled review date	10 th February 2025 [note that the mandatory minimum review cycle for this policy is 2 years]

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