

DUTY OF CARE POLICY

KATANDRA SCHOOL

NOVEMBER 2020

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PURPOSE

The purpose of this policy is to explain to our school community the non-delegable duty of care obligations that all staff at Katandra School owe to our students and members of the school community who visit and use the school premises.

POLICY

“Duty of care” is a legal obligation that requires schools to take reasonable steps to reduce the risk of reasonably foreseeable harm, which can include personal injury (physical or psychological) or damage to property. The reasonable steps that our school may decide to take in response to a potential risk or hazard will depend on the circumstances of the risk.

Our school has developed policies and procedures to manage common risks in the school environment, including:

- Yard duty and Supervision;
- Bullying Prevention;
- Camps and Excursions;
- First Aid;
- Tree Maintenance;
- Grounds Maintenance;
- Student Private Property;
- Child Safe Standards;
- External Providers such as allied health and trades;
- Emergency Management;
- Volunteers;
- Visitors;
- Working with Children and Suitability Checks;
- Mandatory Reporting; and
- Occupational Health and Safety.

Staff at our school understand that school activities involve different levels of risk and that particular care may need to be taken to support younger students and all our students with additional needs. Our school also understands that it is responsible for ensuring that the school premises are kept in good repair and will take reasonable steps to reduce the risk of members of our community suffering injury or damage because of the state of the premises.

School staff, parents, carers and students are encouraged to speak to the principal to raise any concerns about risks or hazards at our school, or our duty of care obligations.

FURTHER INFORMATION AND RESOURCES

- School Policy and Advisory Guide: [Duty of Care](#)
- Parents and Carers should also refer to the following policies that support the Duty of care at Katandra School: *Childs Safe Standards, Bullying Prevention Policy, Child Safe Reporting Obligations Policy, Yard Duty and Supervision Policy, Emergency Management and the Critical Incident Plan.*

REVIEW CYCLE

This Code of Conduct or Policy was endorsed/approved by the Katandra School Council in November 2020 for review if legislative or other changes require in the interim or no later than November 2022.

Date Implemented	November 2020
Author	Rhett Watts
Approved By	School Council
Approval Authority (Signature & Date)	School Council President: Kellie Easton Signature Date
Date to be Reviewed	November 2022
Responsible for Review	Rhett Watts, Thomas Cazaly
References	Victorian Government Schools Reference Guide