

HAMILTON NORTH PRIMARY SCHOOL

DUTY OF CARE POLICY

Purpose

The purpose of this policy is to explain to our school community the non-delegable duty of care obligations that all staff at Hamilton North Primary 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.

The following policies and procedures have been developed by our school to manage common risks in the school environment.

- Yard Duty and Supervision Policy
- Bullying Prevention Policy
- Camps and Excursions Policy
- First Aid Policy
- Child Safe Standards (including Child Safe Policy and Child Safety Code of Conduct)
- Child Safety Responding and Reporting Obligations Policy (including Mandatory Reporting)
- Emergency Management Policy
- Volunteers Work Placement Policy
- Visitors to School Policy

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 or 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.

External Providers

Staff at our school acknowledge that, as our duty of care is non-delegable, we are also required to take reasonable steps to reduce the risk of reasonably foreseeable harm when external providers have been engaged to plan for or conduct an activity involving our students. Our *Visitors Policy* and *Camps and Excursions Policy* include information on the safety and care of our students when engaged with external providers.

Further Information and Resources

- School Policy and Advisory Guide: Duty of Care
- Yard duty and Supervision
- Bullying Prevention
- Camps and Excursions Policy
- First Aid and related policies
- Child Safe Standards Policies
- Emergency Management Plan
- Volunteers Policy
- Visitors Policy
- Child Safety including Mandatory Reporting

Review Cycle

Office Use Only			
Previous Review Date	May 2017		
Current Review Date	August 2020	Ratified by School Council	August 2020
Scheduled Review Date	August 2023		