

St Peter's Primary School Supervision Policy

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



Purpose

St Peter's 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).

Consistent with St Peter's 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 Peter's 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 Peter's, 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 promote the safety and wellbeing of all students and 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
- cultural and/or linguistic background
- 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.

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/guardian/carer 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

A yard duty roster showing designated areas is used for supervision of the school yard before school, during school breaks and after school.

The roster can be found on google drive and in the staff room and must be checked daily. If at any time, any teacher is unable to do his/her supervision at the stated time, he/she should swap with someone else, and document the change on the roster.

It is most important that teachers are very exact about the timing of commencement and completion of this duty.

The safety and continual supervision of the children does not stop in class, but extends to the playground, and it should be considered by all as one of our most important duties as professionals. The playground is never to be left unattended during playtime or lunchtime.

Hi-vis vests and 'tum bags' should be collected from the designated level space prior to yard duty. Yard duty first aid bags can be topped up from the first aid tubs which can be found in each level space.

While on yard duty teachers need to be vigilant by scanning, moving and interacting as well as encouraging the children to problem solve minor difficulties if they can. Any incidents need to be dealt with on the yard. The level staff and school leaders should be informed of any serious dispute / bullying that was not able to be resolved. Incidents should always be followed up with restorative conversations when the students are receptive.

Accidents of a serious nature should be entered in the Accident Record Book which is stored in sick bay and the Principal/Deputy Principal should be consulted.

When an accident requires some attention, the teacher will, at his/her discretion, follow one of these courses:

- Attend to minor incidents. Teachers are supplied with a first aid bag for this purpose.
- Give the 'red cross' card to the child to go to sick bay.

- If the injury is serious teachers are to use the HELP card provided in the 'tum bag' to send to the Office/Staffroom for assistance. Teachers are not to carry children. An epipen card is also located in the First Aid bag. A wheelchair is available in the Office and is only to be used by a school leader.
- Accidents that required medical treatment need to be recorded online.

Teachers are to be visible and active during yard duty.

Teachers are to remain on duty in the designated area until they are replaced by the next teacher.

Teachers are to identify potential risks and take appropriate measures to mitigate against those risks when on yard duty.

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 one-to-one, 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 one-to-one 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 for 8.30am before the start of school and for 3.45pm 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/guardians/carers. If the parents/guardians/carers do not come to collect their children by 3.45pm, a phone call will be made to the parents/guardians/carers or the emergency contact if the parents/guardians/carers cannot be contacted.

The school is committed to ensuring student safety however parental/guardian/carer 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/guardians/carers 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 safety policies
- Child safe risk assessment
- Child Protection - Code of Conduct
- Duty of Care Policy
- Excursion/Camps Risk Management Guidelines
- MACS First Aid Policy and Guidelines
- Anti-Bullying Policy (including cyberbullying)

Responsible director	Director, Learning and Regional Services
Policy owner	General Manager, Student Wellbeing
Approving body/individual	MACS Board

Approval date	13 April 2022
Risk rating	High
Date of next review	April 2024

POLICY DATABASE INFORMATION	
Related documents	
Superseded documents	Supervision Policy – v1.0 - 2021
New policy	