

## PURPOSE

The purpose of this policy is to explain to our school community the non-delegable duty of care obligations that all staff at Rubicon Outdoor Centre 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
- First Aid
- Activity Management Guidelines
- Venue information
- Activity Risk Registers
- Grounds Maintenance
- Student Private Property
- Child Safe Standards
- Emergency Management
- Volunteers
- Visitors
- Working with Children and Suitability Checks
- Student Engagement and Wellbeing
- Mandatory Reporting
- 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 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.

## FURTHER INFORMATION AND RESOURCES

- School Policy and Advisory Guide: [Duty of Care](#)
- Yard duty and Supervision Policy

## REVIEW CYCLE

This policy was last updated on 23/08/18 and is scheduled for review in 23/08/21

## Implementation guide

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| <p><b>Is it compulsory for all Victorian government schools to have a policy addressing this issue?</b></p> | <p>Yes, a school policy addressing this issue is required by the Minimum Standards for school registration (and school reviews).</p>   |
| <p><b>Does this policy have to be approved by school council?</b></p>                                       | <p>No</p>  |
| <p><b>Recommended consultation</b></p>  | <p>Consultation with your school council is not required for this policy as the content applies to all Victorian government schools and does not need to be tailored to your school community. Principals may choose to present it to school council for noting.</p> |
| <p><b>What is the basis of this policy?</b></p>   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Minimum Standards for school registration (and school reviews)</li> <li>• School Policy and Advisory Guide: <a href="#">Duty of Care</a></li> </ul>   |
| <p><b>Recommended review cycle</b></p>  | <p>3 to 4 years</p>  |