

We acknowledge the "Wurundjeri people" of the Kulin Nation as the traditional custodians of the land we live, work, and travel upon. We respect their elders, both past and present, *always was, and always will be, Aboriginal land.*



We stand up for diversity.



Brunswick East Primary School DUTY OF CARE POLICY

Help for non-English speakers.



If you need help understanding the information in this policy, please get in touch with the office on 9387 3361.

PURPOSE

This policy aims to explain to our school community the non-delegable duty of care obligations that all Brunswick East Primary School staff owe to our students and school community members 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, including personal injury (physical or psychological) or property damage. 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
- Child Safe Standards
- Emergency Management
- Volunteers
- Visitors
- Working with Children and Suitability Checks
- Mandatory Reporting
- Occupational Health and Safety

Our school acknowledges we are required to take reasonable precautions to prevent the abuse of a child by an individual associated with the organisation while the child is under the care, supervision or authority of the organisation.

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 concerns about our school's risks or hazards, 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.

COMMUNICATION

This policy will be communicated to our school community in the following ways Provided to staff at induction and included in the staff handbook/manual

- Discussed at staff meetings/briefings as required
- Made available publicly on our school website
- Made available in hard copy from school administration upon request

FURTHER INFORMATION AND RESOURCES

- The Department's Policy and Advisory Library (PAL): [Duty of Care](#)
- The Department's Policy and Advisory Library (PAL): [Structured Workplace Learning](#)
- Our policies can be found at <https://beps.vic.edu.au/policies/>

POLICY REVIEW AND APPROVAL

Policy last reviewed	September 2023
Approved by	Principal
Next scheduled review date	September 2026