



Nullawarre and District Primary School

POLICY:	YARD DUTY AND SUPERVISION POLICY
NOTED AT SCHOOL COUNCIL:	October 2025
APPROVED BY:	Denise Kelly – 2025
TO BE REVIEWED:	Biannual or when changes occur to the Department's "School Policy and Advisory Guide" – October 2027

Consultation with your school council is not required for this policy as it is operational. This has been presented to school council for noting.



Help for non-English speakers

If you need help to understand the information in this policy, please contact Nullawarre and District Primary School for assistance.

PURPOSE

To ensure school staff understand their supervision and yard duty responsibilities.

SCOPE

This policy applies to all teaching and non-teaching staff at Nullawarre and District Primary School, including education support staff, casual relief teachers and visiting teachers.

POLICY

Appropriate supervision is an important strategy to monitor student behaviour and enables staff to identify and respond to possible risks at school as they arise. It also plays a vital role in helping schools to discharge their duty of care to students.

The principal is responsible for ensuring that there is a well organised and responsive system of supervision and yard duty in place during school hours, before and after school, and on school excursions and camps and other school activities.

School staff are responsible for following reasonable and lawful instructions from the principal, including instructions to provide supervision to students at specific dates, times and places. Supervision should be undertaken in a way that identifies and mitigates risks to child safety.

Before and after school

Nullawarre and District Primary School's grounds are supervised by school staff from 8:30am until 3:45pm. Outside of these hours, school staff will not be available to supervise students.

Before and after school, school staff will supervise bus drop off zone and front gate.

Parents and carers will be advised through regular reminders in our newsletter that they should not allow their children to attend Nullawarre and District Primary School outside of these hours. Families will be encouraged to contact the school office on 5566 5267 for more information about the before and after school care facilities available to our school community.

If a student arrives at school before supervision commences at the beginning of the day, the principal or nominee staff member will, as soon as practicable, follow up with the parent/carer to:

- advise of the supervision arrangements before school
- request that the parent/carer make alternate arrangements.

If a student is not collected before supervision finishes at the end of the day, the principal or nominee staff member will consider whether it is appropriate to:

- attempt to contact the parents/carers
- attempt to contact the emergency contacts
- place the student in an out of school hours care program (if available and the parent consents)
- contact Victoria Police and/or Child Protection to arrange for the supervision, care and protection of the student.

Yard duty

All teaching staff and designated education support staff at Nullawarre and District Primary School are expected to assist with yard duty supervision and will be included in the weekly roster.

The principal is responsible for preparing and communicating the yard duty roster on a regular basis.

Yard Duty Zone - Outside

The designated yard duty area for outside duty at our school



Yard Duty Zone – Inside (example: extreme weather)

The designated yard duty areas for inside yard duty at our school

- movie
- free drawing

- Creative design (Lego, board games, blocks, dominoes)

Yard duty equipment/resources

School staff must:

- Carry their own personal phone (if personal phone is unavailable, please see the Principal or Business Manager).
- Carry the yard duty first aid bag at all times during supervision. The yard duty first aid bag will be stored at the exit to the back door of the school.
- Be familiar with student health and safety information displayed in the first aid room.

Yard duty responsibilities

Staff who are rostered for yard duty must remain in the designated area until they are replaced by a relieving staff member.

During yard duty, supervising school staff must:

- methodically move around the designated zone ensuring active supervision of all students.
- where safe to do so, approach any unknown visitor who is observed on school grounds without a clear legitimate purpose, and if necessary contact the office.
- ensure students remain in their designated zone (in term 1 and term 4 – ensure students are not playing near the fence line).
- be alert and vigilant.
- intervene immediately if potentially dangerous or inappropriate behaviour is observed in the yard.
- enforce behavioural standards and implement appropriate consequences for breaches of safety rules, in accordance with any relevant disciplinary measures.
- ensure that students who require first aid assistance receive it as soon as practicable
- Prior to the end of the school day, log any incidents or near misses as appropriate on XUNO.

If being relieved of their yard duty shift by another staff member (for example, where the shift is 'split' into 2 consecutive time periods), the staff member must ensure that a brief but adequate verbal 'handover' is given to the relieving staff member in relation to any issues which may have arisen during the first shift.

If the supervising staff member needs to leave yard duty during the allocated time, they should contact the office but should not leave the designated area until the relieving staff member has arrived in the designated area.

If the relieving staff member does not arrive for yard duty, the staff member currently on duty should contact the office and not leave the designated area until a relieving staff member has arrived.

Students will be encouraged to speak to the supervising yard duty staff member if they require assistance during recess or lunchtime.

Classroom

The classroom teacher is responsible for the supervision of all students in their care during class. If a teacher needs to leave the classroom unattended at any time during a lesson, they should first contact front office for assistance. The teacher should then wait until a replacement staff member has arrived at the classroom before leaving.

School activities, camps and excursions

The principal and leadership team are responsible for ensuring that students are appropriately supervised during all school activities, camps and excursions, including when external providers are engaged to conduct part or all the activity. Appropriate supervision will be planned for school activities, camps and excursions on an individual basis, depending on the activities to be undertaken and the level of potential risk involved, and will follow the supervision requirements in the Department of Education and Training [Excursions Policy](#).

Digital devices and virtual classroom

Nullawarre and District Primary School follows the Department's [Cybersafety and Responsible Use of Technologies Policy](#) with respect to supervision of students using digital devices.

Students requiring additional supervision support

Sometimes students will require additional supervision, such as students with disability or other additional needs. In these cases, the principal or delegate will ensure arrangements are made to roster additional staff as required. This may include on yard duty, in the classroom or during school activities.

Supervision of student in emergency operating environments

In emergency circumstances our school will follow our Emergency Management Plan, including with respect to supervision.

In the event of any mandatory period of remote or flexible learning our School will follow the operations guidance issued by the Department.

COMMUNICATION

This policy will be communicated to our school community in the following:

- Provided to all staff
- Made available in hard copy from the school office upon request

Information for parents and students on supervision before and after school is provided within the newsletter.

FURTHER INFORMATION AND RESOURCES

- the Department's Policy and Advisory Library (PAL):
 - [Child Safe Standards](#)
 - [Cybersafety and Responsible Use of Technologies](#)
 - [Duty of Care](#)
 - [Excursions](#)
 - [Supervision of Students](#)
 - [Visitors in Schools](#)