

Purpose

St Mary's School 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), where formation and education are based on the principles of Catholic doctrine, and where the teachers are outstanding in true doctrine and uprightness of life.

Consistent with St Mary'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 Mary's School 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 Mary's School, 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 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 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.

'Bum Bags and hi-vis vests are to be collected by the teacher on first duty from the coat rack outside the staffroom.

A walkie talkie system is used to ensure prompt communication between the yard duty teacher and the office in the case of an emergency.

Yard Duty 'Bum Bags' contain basic first aid supplies, tissues and a number of plastic cards.

- First Aid cards are given to children who require first aid treatment. Once a card is given the child has permission to proceed to the school office
- There is a photo for each anaphylactic child. In case of an attack lie the child down and contact the office and the nearest staff member for assistance..

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.

Areas:

The yard is divided into two areas for the purposes of supervision at recess (11.00 – 11.30 am.) and lunch time (Monday 1.30 – 2.20 pm. and Tuesday – Friday 1.40 – 2.30 pm.).

Area 1:

Netball court, Senior Toilet Block, Hall, Canteen and Sand Pit and Junior Adventure Playground.

Area 2:

Basketball Court, Senior Adventure Playground, Building Three Toilets, Myamyn Area and Oval.

At the beginning of Recess the Area 1 teacher should remove the cover from the sand pit.

At the end of Lunch the Area 2 teacher should arrange for the sand pit to be covered.

At the end of Recess or Lunch break, the bell will be rung (5 minute line up bell)

- The teacher in Area 1 should proceed to the line up area on the netball court.
- The teacher in Area 2 should remain on the oval until the last child has moved from the oval. The teacher should then walk through the playground area to the assembly area on the netball court.
- The teachers remain on yard duty until all staff have collected their students from the assembly area.

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 speakers 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 1:1, 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 1:1 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 15 minutes before the start of school and for 15 minutes 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. If the parents do not come to collect their children within 15 minutes, a phone call will be made to the parents or the emergency contact if the parents cannot be contacted.

The school is committed to ensuring student safety however parental cooperation 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 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 Safe Policy

Child safe risk assessment

Child Protection -Code of Conduct

MACS Duty of Care Policy

Excursion/Camps Risk Management Guidelines

MACS First Aid policy
 Off-Site Supervision of Students Policy
 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	13th 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	