

Duty of Care Policy

PURPOSE

The purpose of this policy is to explain to our school community the non-delegability of care obligations that all staff at Rangebank Primary School 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
- Camps and Excursions
- First Aid
- Child Safe Standards
- External Providers
- Emergency Management
- Volunteers
- Visitors
- Working with Children and Suitability Checks
- Mandatory Reporting

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 any concerns about risks or hazards at our school, 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.
- 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](#)
- [RPS Visitors policy](#)
- [RPS Volunteers policy](#)
- [RPS Camps and Excursions Policy](#)

Review Cycle

This policy was last reviewed in August 2023 and will be reviewed as part of the school's annual review cycle and as per DET recommendations.

Signed 
Adriana Allan (Aug 10, 2023 15:05 GMT+10)

Principal


Lawrence Hamilton (Aug 10, 2023 16:39 GMT+10)

School Council President

Date: 10 August 2023

RPS Duty of Care Policy

Final Audit Report

2023-08-10

Created:	2023-08-10
By:	Cameron Macnab (rangebank.ps@education.vic.gov.au)
Status:	Signed
Transaction ID:	CBJCHBCAABAAtgBv9UfQodz0YL7wcvMMWhmHNtmKTA7P

"RPS Duty of Care Policy" History

-  Document created by Cameron Macnab (rangebank.ps@education.vic.gov.au)
2023-08-10 - 5:00:58 AM GMT- IP address: 147.161.218.119
-  Document emailed to adriana.allan@education.vic.gov.au for signature
2023-08-10 - 5:01:27 AM GMT
-  Email viewed by adriana.allan@education.vic.gov.au
2023-08-10 - 5:04:42 AM GMT- IP address: 52.102.13.37
-  Signer adriana.allan@education.vic.gov.au entered name at signing as Adriana Allan
2023-08-10 - 5:04:58 AM GMT- IP address: 49.184.210.180
-  Document e-signed by Adriana Allan (adriana.allan@education.vic.gov.au)
Signature Date: 2023-08-10 - 5:05:00 AM GMT - Time Source: server- IP address: 49.184.210.180
-  Document emailed to lawrencehamilton@bigpond.com for signature
2023-08-10 - 5:05:01 AM GMT
-  Email viewed by lawrencehamilton@bigpond.com
2023-08-10 - 6:39:07 AM GMT- IP address: 120.158.192.148
-  Signer lawrencehamilton@bigpond.com entered name at signing as Lawrence Hamilton
2023-08-10 - 6:39:21 AM GMT- IP address: 120.158.192.148
-  Document e-signed by Lawrence Hamilton (lawrencehamilton@bigpond.com)
Signature Date: 2023-08-10 - 6:39:23 AM GMT - Time Source: server- IP address: 120.158.192.148
-  Agreement completed.
2023-08-10 - 6:39:23 AM GMT