

**Learn. Grow. Become.**



# **Yard Duty & Supervision Policy**





### **Help for non-English speakers**

**If you need help to understand the information in this policy please contact the school office on 03 9592 0177**

## **Purpose**

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

## **Scope**

This policy applies to all teaching and non-teaching staff at Brighton 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**

Brighton Primary School grounds are supervised by school staff from 8:45 am until 9:00 am. Outside of these hours, school staff will not be available to supervise students. Gates are locked at 9:15am each day and unlocked at 3:15pm each afternoon. Entry to our school between 9:15am and 3:15pm is only through the school office.

#### **Before school, school staff will supervise:**

- The junior school oval and Male Street middle gate entrance
- The junior playground and Male Street lower gate entrance
- The senior oval
- The bike shed and Wilson Street entrance.

#### **After school, school staff will supervise:**

- The junior school oval and Male Street middle gate entrance
- The junior playground and Male Street lower gate entrance
- The bike shed and Wilson Street entrance.

### 3 Yard Duty and Supervision Policy

Parents and carers will be advised through a notification on our school website and regular reminders in our newsletter or on Compass, that they should not allow their children to attend Brighton Primary School outside of these hours. Families will be encouraged to contact [Team Kids](#) 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 the out of school hours care program (with parent consent)
- Contact Victoria Police and/or Child Protection to arrange for the supervision, care and protection of the student.

#### Yard duty

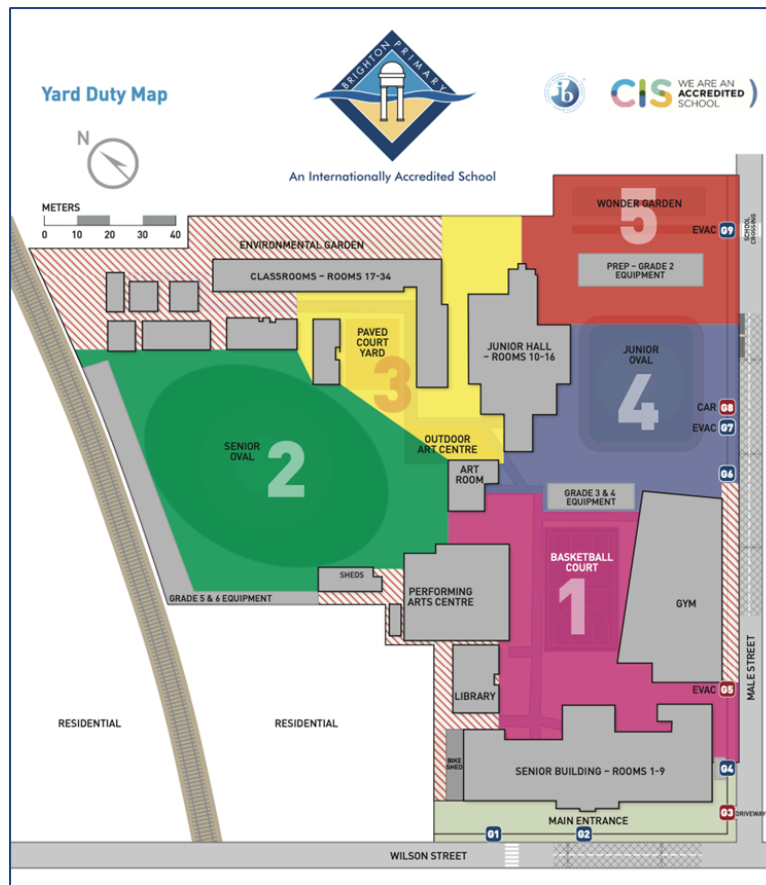
All teachers at Brighton Primary School are expected to assist with yard duty supervision and will be included in the weekly roster.

The Assistant Principal and Daily Organiser/CRT Team is responsible for preparing and communicating the yard duty roster on a regular basis. At Brighton Primary, school staff will be designated a specific yard duty area to supervise.

#### Yard duty zones

The designated yard duty areas for our school (as at 22/07/2022) are:

Area	Location
Area 1	Basketball courts / bike shed / area between gymnasium and senior building / senior toilets (Prep - Grade 6)
Area 2	Senior oval (Grades 3 - 6)
Area 3	Portables / courtyard area / behind junior school building / junior toilets (Prep - Grade 6)
Area 4	Junior oval / play equipment outside gymnasium / junior toilets (Prep - Grade 4)
Area 5	Junior school playground equipment (Prep - Grade 2)



**Map of Yard Duty Zones**

### **Yard duty equipment**

School staff must:

- Wear a provided safety/hi-vis vest whilst on yard duty. Safety/hi-vis vests will be stored with the first aid bags in the senior resource room.
- Carry the yard duty first aid bag at all times during supervision. The yard duty first aid bag will be stored in the senior resource room.
- Carry and be familiar with the yard duty information folder containing student health and safety information, stored in the resource room in the senior building.

Yard duty equipment must be returned after the period of supervision or handed to the relieving staff member.

### **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 ensure they have a visitor pass and have signed in (excluding drop off and collection periods)
- Ensure students remain in their designated year level zones
- Be alert and vigilant
- Intervene immediately if potentially dangerous or inappropriate behaviour is observed in the yard

## 5 Yard Duty and Supervision Policy

- Enforce behavioural standards and implement appropriate consequences for breaches of safety rules, in accordance with any relevant disciplinary measures set out in the school's Student Engagement policy
- Ensure that students who require first aid assistance receive it as soon as practicable
- Log any incidents or near misses as appropriate on Compass as soon as practicable.

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 is unable to conduct yard duty at the designated time, they should attempt to organise a swap with a colleague. If this is not practical, the supervising staff member should contact the Assistant Principal/staffing team with as much notice as possible prior to the relevant yard duty shift, to ensure that alternative arrangements are made.

If the supervising staff member needs to leave yard duty during the allocated time, they should contact the school 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 send a message to the office/Assistant Principal, 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.

In general, if a child needs to leave the classroom, they should be accompanied by another student where practicable.

If a teacher needs to leave the classroom unattended at any time during a lesson, they should first contact a neighbouring colleague or a member of the school 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 of 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

Brighton Primary follows the Department's [Cyber Safety and Responsible Use of Technologies Policy](#) with respect to supervision of students using digital devices.

Brighton Primary will also ensure appropriate supervision of students participating in remote and flexible learning environments while on school site. In these cases, students will be supervised in common spaces e.g. Performing Arts Centre, Community Hub, library.

In the circumstance of remote and virtual learning from home, parents are responsible for the appropriate supervision of students accessing virtual classrooms from home. However:

- Student attendance will be monitored daily
- Any wellbeing or safety concerns for the student will be managed in accordance with our usual processes – refer to our Student Engagement Policy and our Child Safety Responding and Reporting Policy and Procedures for further information.

## **Students requiring additional supervision support**

Sometimes students will require additional supervision, such as students with disabilities 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 ways:

- Included in staff induction processes
- Discussed at staff briefings or meetings, as required
- Included in our staff handbook
- Regular reminders via our school newsletter and Compass
- Made available in hard copy from school administration upon request

# **Further Information and Resources**

This policy should be read in conjunction with the following Department policies and guidelines:

- [Child Safe Standards](#)
- [Cybersafety and Responsible Use of Technologies](#)
- [Duty of Care](#)
- [Excursions](#)
- [Supervision of Students](#)
- [Visitors in Schools](#)



## Contact Details

59 Wilson Street, Brighton, VIC 3186  
Telephone +61 3 9592 0177

[brighton.ps@education.vic.gov.au](mailto:brighton.ps@education.vic.gov.au)  
[www.education.vic.gov.au](http://www.education.vic.gov.au)

## Review Cycle

<b>This policy was last ratified by School Council</b>	2024
<b>To be reviewed</b>	2026



Brighton Primary School operates within the framework of  
the International Baccalaureate Primary Years Programme.