



## **DUTY OF CARE POLICY**

### **BLACKBURN LAKE PRIMARY SCHOOL**

**12 - 14 Florence Street Blackburn 3130**

#### **PURPOSE**

The purpose of this policy is to explain to our school community the non-delegable duty of care obligations that all staff at Blackburn Lake 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 Policy
- Bullying Prevention Policy
- Camps and Excursions Policy
- First Aid Policy
- Child Safe Standards
- External Providers Policy
- Emergency Management
- Volunteers Policy
- Visitors Policy
- Yard Duty and Supervision Policy
- Student Engagement and Wellbeing Policy
- Photography, Filming and Recording Students Policy

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.

## FURTHER INFORMATION AND RESOURCES

- [Blackburn Lake Primary School Yard Duty and Supervision Policy](#)
- [Blackburn Lake Primary School Bullying Prevention Policy](#)
- [Blackburn Lake Primary School Camps and Excursions Policy](#)
- [Blackburn Lake Primary School First Aid Policy](#)
- [Blackburn Lake Primary School Child Safe Standards Policy](#)
- Blackburn Lake Primary School External Providers Policy
- [Blackburn Lake Primary School Volunteers Policy](#)
- [Blackburn Lake Primary School Visitors Policy](#)
- [Blackburn Lake Primary School Yard Duty and Supervision Policy](#)
- [Blackburn Lake Primary School Student Engagement and Wellbeing Policy](#)
- [Blackburn Lake Primary School Photography, Filming and Recording Students Policy](#)

## COMMUNICATION

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

- Available publicly on our school's website
- Included in induction processes for relevant staff
- Included in our staff handbook/manual
- Discussed in an annual staff briefing/meeting
- Made available in hard copy from school administration upon request

## POLICY REVIEW AND APPROVAL

Policy last reviewed	October 2023
Consultation	Staff School Council
Approved by	Principal David Dowson
Next scheduled review date	October 2027