**DUTY OF CARE**

**PURPOSE**

The purpose of this policy is to explain to our school community the non-delegable duty of care obligations that all staff at Kerrimuir Primary School owe to our students and members of the school community who visit and use the school premises.

**COMMUNICATION**

This policy will be communicated with school council members for ratification, and for community via the school website and/or via Compass newsfeed.

**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.  *The school will take reasonable precautions to prevent the abuse of a child by an individual associated with the organisation (for example, external provider, contractor) while the child is under the care, supervision or authority of the organisation. Kerrimuir Primary Schoool requires all external providers or contractors to be inducted and acknowledge commitment to child safe standards.*

Our school has developed policies and procedures to manage common risks in the school environment, including:

* Anaphylaxis
* Asthma
* Administration of Medication
* Sun Smart
* Yard duty and Supervision
* Bullying Prevention
* Camps and Excursions
* First Aid
* Student Private Property
* Child Safe Standards
* External Providers
* Emergency Management
* Volunteers
* Visitors
* Working with Children and Suitability Checks
* Mandatory Reporting
* Occupational Health and Safety

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.

**FURTHER INFORMATION AND RESOURCES**

* School Policy and Advisory Guide: [Duty of Care](http://www.education.vic.gov.au/school/principals/spag/safety/Pages/dutyofcare.aspx)

http://www.kerrimuirps.vic.edu.au/CurrentFamilies/PoliciesandProcedures

**REVIEW CYCLE**

| **Policy last reviewed** | February 2022 |
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| **Consultation** | Consultation with school council (ratified Feb 2022) and communicated to parents via Compass in July 2022 |
| **Approved by** | Principal: Michael McLean |
| **Next scheduled review date** | February 2025 |