



YARD DUTY AND SUPERVISION POLICY



Help for non-English speakers

If you need help to understand the information in this policy, please contact Glenroy Specialist School: 03 9304 2263.

PURPOSE

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

SCOPE

This policy applies to all teaching and non-teaching staff at Glenroy Specialist 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

Glenroy Specialist School's grounds are supervised by school staff from 8:45am until all school buses have departed in the afternoon. Outside of these hours, school staff will not be available to supervise students.

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
- contact Victoria Police and/or Child Protection to arrange for the supervision, care and protection of the student.

Bus duty

In the morning Education Support (ES) staff will accompany all students safely to their classroom. Staff rostered on afternoon bus duty will ensure the students are safely secured on the bus.

A leading teacher will oversee:

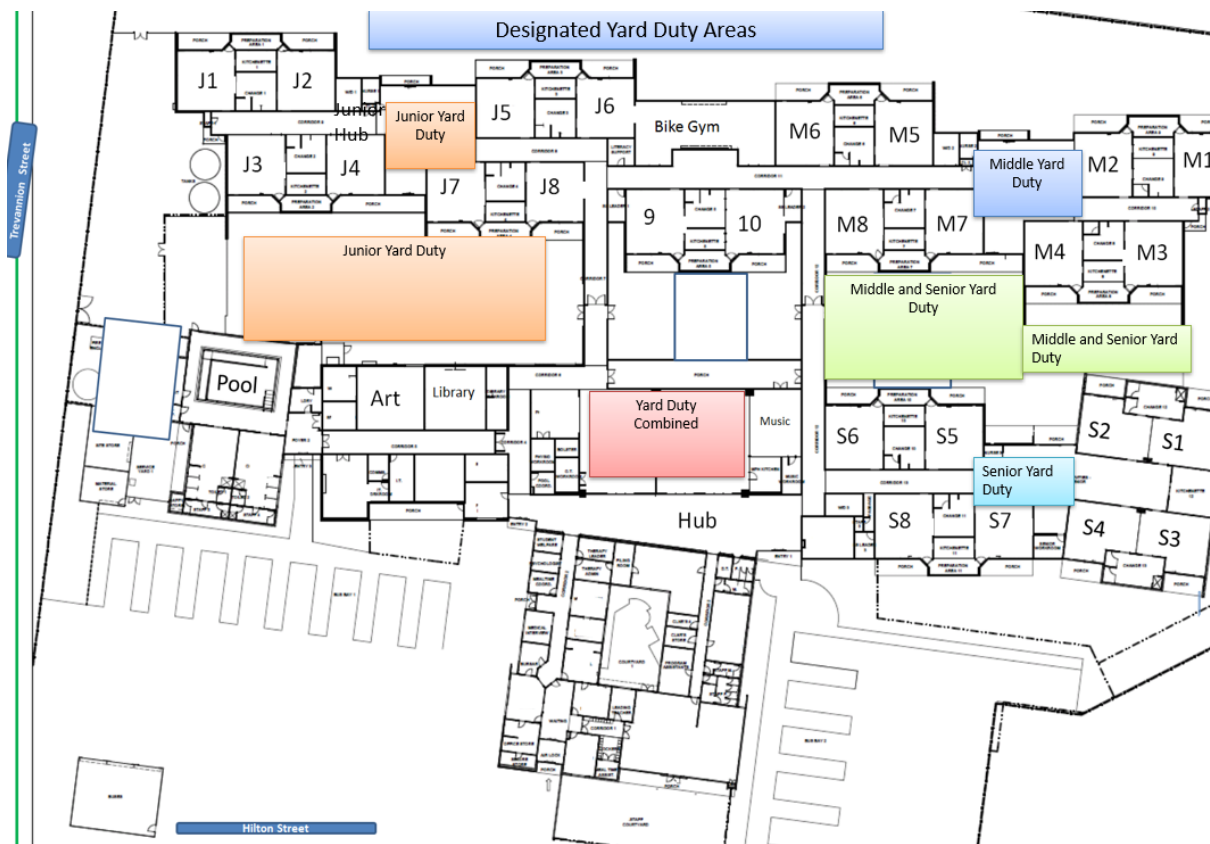
- bus arrivals from 8:45am until all buses have arrived and all students are delivered to classrooms, and
- bus departures from 3:15pm until all buses have departed.

Yard duty

All teacher, ES staff and therapists are expected to assist with yard duty supervision, mealtime assistance or personal care each day and will be included in the daily roster. At least one teacher will have duty of care in each yard duty area.

The Subschool Leader is responsible for preparing and communicating the yard duty roster on a regular basis. At Glenroy Specialist School, school staff will be designated a specific yard duty, toileting duty or mealtime duty.

These are the designated 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 in each Subschool hub.
- Be familiar with the yard duty information pack containing student health and safety information stored 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
- ensure students remain in their designated area
- be alert and vigilant
- intervene immediately if potentially dangerous or inappropriate behaviour is observed in the yard
- enforce behavioural standards and report any incidents to the subschool leader
- ensure that students who require first aid assistance receive it as soon as practicable
- log any incidents or near misses as appropriate

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 contact the Subschool Leader 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 Subschool Leader but should not leave the designated area until the relieving staff member has arrived in the designated area.

Classroom

The classroom teacher is responsible for the supervision of all students in their care during class.

If a teacher needs to leave the classroom unattended at any time during a lesson, they should first contact the Subschool leader 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

Glenroy Specialist School follows the Department's [Cybersafety and Responsible Use of Technologies Policy](#) with respect to supervision of students using digital devices.

Glenroy Specialist School 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.

While parents are responsible for the appropriate supervision of students accessing virtual classrooms from home:

- student attendance will be monitored
- any wellbeing or safety concerns for the student will be managed in accordance with our usual processes – refer to our Student Wellbeing and 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 specific medical requirements. In these cases, the Principal or subschool leader will ensure arrangements are made to roster additional staff as required.

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:

- Made available on our school's website
- Included in staff induction processes
- Discussed at staff briefings or meetings, as required
- Included in our staff handbook
- Made available in hard copy from school administration upon request

FURTHER INFORMATION AND RESOURCES

- the Department's Policy and Advisory Library (PAL):
 - [Child Safe Standards](#)
 - [Cybersafety and Responsible Use of Technologies](#)
 - [Duty of Care](#)
 - [Excursions](#)
 - [Supervision of Students](#)
 - [Visitors in Schools](#)

POLICY REVIEW AND APPROVAL

Policy last reviewed	August, 2022
Approved by	Allan Waterson Principal
Next scheduled review date	August, 2024

This policy will also be updated if significant changes are made to school grounds that require a revision of Glenroy Specialist School's yard duty and supervision arrangements.