

Purpose

The purpose of this policy is to explain to our school community the non-delegable duty of care obligations that all staff at Watsonia North Primary 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:

- Onsite Supervision Policy
- Positive Relationships and Anti-Bulling Policy
- Camps and Excursions
- First Aid Policy & Procedures
- Asthma Policy
- Anaphylaxis Policy
- Tree Maintenance Program
- Grounds Maintenance Program
- Student Private Property Policy
- Child Safe Standards
- Excursions and Incursions Policy
- Emergency Management Plan
- Volunteers Policy
- Visitors Policy
- Child Protection Policy
- 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 class team to raise any concerns about risks or hazards at our school, or our duty of care obligations.

Further Information and Resources

- DET School Policy and Advisory Guide: [Duty of Care](#)
- WNPS *Onsite Supervision Policy*
- WNPS *Child Safe Standards*

Evaluation & Review Cycle

Evaluation of the *Duty of Care Policy* will occur every four years as stipulated in the *Watsonia North PS Policy Review Cycle* document.

This policy was updated in September 2018 and is scheduled for review in 2022.

