

Duty of Care

Rationale:

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

Implementation:

“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:

- Active Supervision
- Bullying and Harassment
- Camps, Incursions, Excursions and Aquatics
- Child Safe
- Community Involvement
- Emergency Management
- Exclusion for Infectious Diseases
- External Therapists
- First Aid
- Infection Control
- Mandatory Reporting
- Missing and Absconding Students
- Occupational Health and Safety
- Onsite Supervision
- School Vehicles
- Visitors
- Volunteers
- Working with Children Checks

Staff at our school understand that school activities involve different levels of risk. 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, guardians 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.

References:

- School Policy and Advisory Guide: Duty of Care
- School policies as named above

Version: Final

This policy will be reviewed as part of the school's three to four year review cycle

Ratified at School Council: **18/09/2018**

Review Date: **18/09/2022**

'Sunshine SDS is committed to providing a child safe environment where children and young people are safe and feel safe, and their voices heard about decisions that affect their lives'.