# **DUTY OF CARE POLICY**



#### **Purpose:**

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

#### **Guidelines:**

"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.

## **Implementation:**

- Killara Primary School has developed policies and procedures to manage common risks in the school environment, including:
- Yard duty and Supervision
- Bullying Prevention
- Camps and Excursions
- First Aid
- Child Safety and Code of Conduct
- Emergency Management
- Volunteers
- Visitors
- Working with Children and Suitability Checks
- Mandatory Reporting
- Occupational Health and Safety
- Staff at Killara Primary 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.
- Killara Primary 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.
- Staff at Killara Primary 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 *Child Safety Policy and Code of Conduct, Volunteers Policy, Visitors Policy* and *Camps and Excursions Policy* include information on the safety and care of our students when engaged with external providers.

### **Evaluation:**

This policy will be reviewed with staff, student, parent and community input as part of the school's three year review cycle.

Ratified: 2019 Review Date: 2022