

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 Elevation Secondary College 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.

The dual registration of the school as a mainstream school with a specialist campus is reflective of the ideals of the school model which is that the vast majority of the students are mainstream enrolments, and these students have all the rights and opportunities available to students at other mainstream schools. Dual registration as a special school and participation in the Supported Inclusion Schools initiative simply means that a number of places at the school can be available for special education students – around 100 places roughly equivalent to 8% of the permanent capacity of 1200 – which provides enough scale to allow these students to be better supported.

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

- Inclusion and Diversity
- Bullying Prevention
- Camps and Excursions
- Child Safe Standards
- Emergency Management
- First Aid
- Mandatory Reporting
- Occupational Health and Safety
- Volunteers
- Visitors
- Working with Children and Suitability Checks
- Yard Duty and Supervision

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

Elevation Secondary College

- School Policy and Advisory Guide: [Duty of Care](#)
- School Policy and Advisory Guide: [Workplace Learning](#)
- Bullying Prevention Policy
- Camps and Excursions Policy
- Child Safe Policy
- Emergency Management Plan
- First Aid Policy
- Mandatory Reporting Policy
- Occupational Health and Safety
- Volunteers Policy
- Visitors Policy
- Working with Children and Suitability Checks
- Yard Duty and Supervision Policy

REVIEW CYCLE

This policy was last updated on October 2019 and is scheduled for review in May 2020.