



# YARD DUTY AND SUPERVISION POLICY



## Help for non-English speakers

If you need help to understand the information in this policy please contact the school office on 5336 7804.

## PURPOSE

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

## SCOPE

This policy applies to all teaching and non-teaching staff at Mount Rowan Secondary College, 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

Mount Rowan Secondary College's grounds are supervised by school staff from **8:40am** until **4:15pm**. Outside of these hours, school staff will not be available to supervise students.

Supervision before and after school is concentrated at the bus stop, quadrangle, canteen in colder months (before school), locker area (before school) and front entrance to the school.

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
- place the student in an out of school hours care program (if available and the parent consents)
- contact Victoria Police and/or Child Protection to arrange for the supervision, care and protection of the student.

## Yard duty

All staff at Mount Rowan Secondary College are expected to assist with yard duty supervision and will be included in the weekly roster.

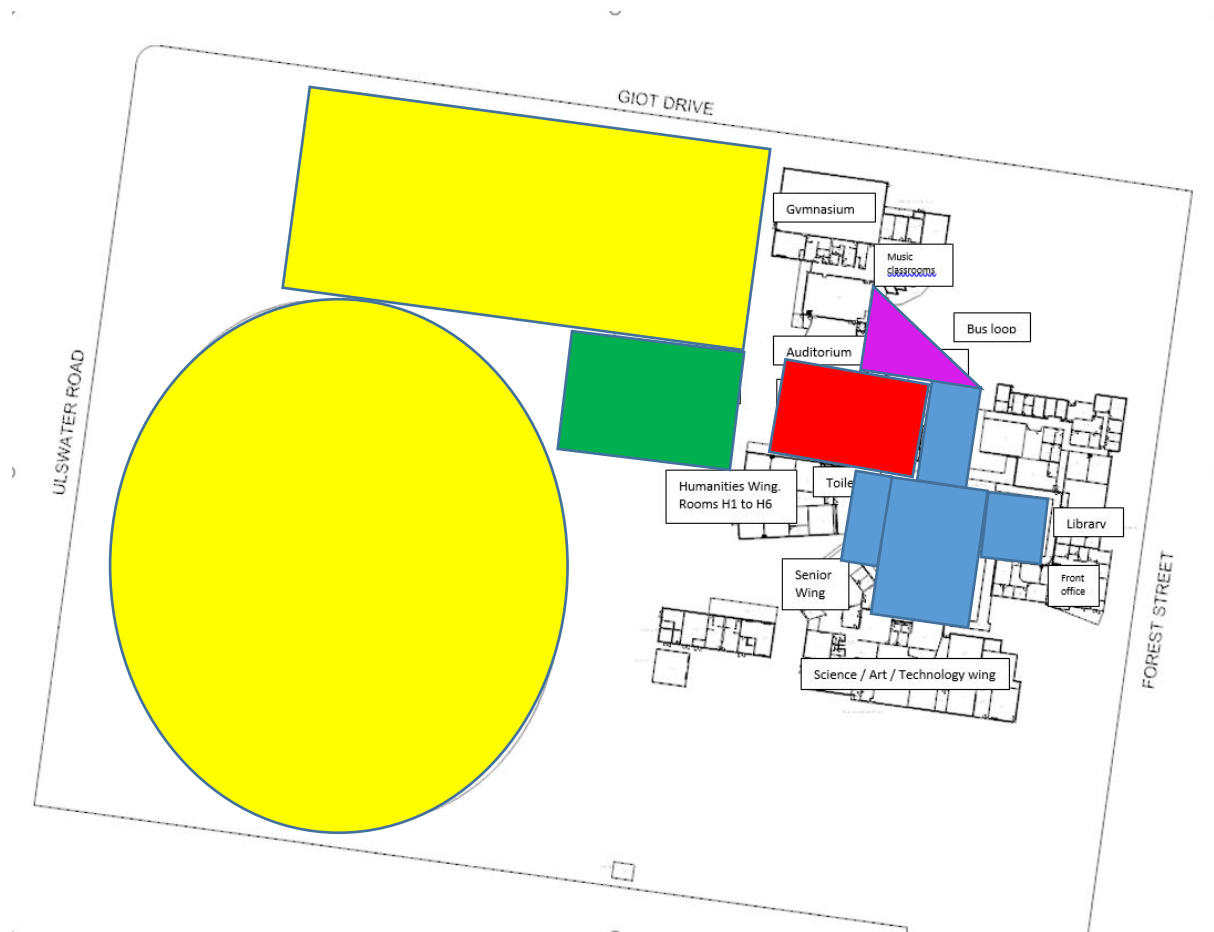
The Principal or Assistant Principal is responsible for preparing and communicating the yard duty roster on a regular basis. At Mount Rowan Secondary College, school staff will be designated a specific yard duty area to supervise.

## Yard duty zones

The designated yard duty areas for our school:

	time
<b>Before School yard duty</b> Close gates by 9.05am <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Gate near forest St entrance near the students' toilets.</li> <li>• Gate near the gym entrance facing the carpark / bus stop</li> </ul>	8.40am – 9.05am
<b>Recess yard duty</b>	Mon / Tue / Thur / Fri: 10.45am – 11.10am Wed: 10.30am – 10.55am
<b>Lunch 1 yard duty</b>	Mon / Tue / Thur / Fri: 12.50pm – 1.12pm Wed: 12.55pm – 1.20pm
<b>Lunch 2 yard duty</b>	Mon / Tue / Thur / Fri: 1.12pm – 1.35pm Wed: 1.20pm – 1.45pm
<b>After school / bus duty</b> Open gates at 3.10pm <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Gates near Administration building</li> <li>• Gate near bus stop</li> <li>• Supervise students on grass hill or music room if weather is wet and cold</li> </ul>	3.10pm – 4.15pm

## Yard Duty Map



Area 1 – Quadrangle / Shaded Area

Area 2 – Oval / Courts

Synthetic Pitch

Canteen

Bus Duty

## **Yard Duty equipment**

School staff must:

- wear a provided safety/hi-vis vest whilst on yard duty. Safety/hi-vis vests will be given to each staff member.
- carry the yard duty first aid bag at all times during supervision. The yard duty first aid bag will be stored in the staff centre.

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 teacher.

During yard duty, supervising school staff must:

- methodically move around the designated zone ensuring staff are constantly moving and have visibility of the zone
- where safe to do so, approach any unknown visitor who is observed on school grounds without a clear legitimate purpose, and ensure they have a visitor pass and have signed in (excluding drop off and collection periods)
- be alert and vigilant
- intervene immediately if potentially dangerous or inappropriate behaviour is observed in the yard
- enforce behavioural standards and implement appropriate consequences for breaches of safety rules, in accordance with any relevant disciplinary measures set out in the school's Student Engagement policy
- ensure that students who require first aid assistance receive it as soon as practicable
- log any incidents or near misses as appropriate on Compass via Chronical

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 teacher is unable to conduct yard duty at the designated time, they should contact the Daily Organiser with as much notice as possible prior to the relevant yard duty shift to ensure that alternative arrangements are made.

If the supervising teacher needs to leave yard duty during the allocated time, they should contact the Assistant Principal but should not leave the designated area until the relieving teacher has arrived in the designated area.

If a next duty teacher does not arrive for yard duty, the teacher currently on duty should send a message to the office via a student or call the Assistant Principal and not leave the designated area until a relieving teacher has arrived.

Students will be encouraged to speak to the supervising yard duty staff member if they require assistance during recess or lunchtime.

## **Classroom**

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

Teachers are expected to be vigilantly supervising ALL students within their class at all times. If a student needs to leave the class for a suitable reason (e.g. toilet), students should have a note signed by the classroom teacher in their school organiser. Teachers should ensure they are familiar with the *Student Wellbeing and Engagement Policy* to ensure staff understand Mount Rowan Secondary College's disciplinary procedures.

If a teacher needs to leave the classroom unattended at any time during a lesson, he or she should first contact the front office or Head of House office 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**

Mount Rowan Secondary College follows the Department's [Cybersafety and Responsible Use of Technologies Policy](#) with respect to supervision of students using digital devices.

Mount Rowan Secondary College 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 in the library.

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

- student attendance will be monitored daily for all 6 periods.
- 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 disability or other additional needs. In these cases, the Principal or delegate will ensure arrangements are made to roster additional staff as required. This may include on yard duty, in the classroom or during school activities.

## **Workplace learning programs**

When students are participating in workplace learning programs, such as work experience, school-based apprenticeships and traineeships, and structured workplace learning, the safety and welfare of the student is paramount. Organising staff are required to follow all applicable Department of

Education and Training policies and guidelines in relation to off-site learning, including policy and guidelines on the safety and wellbeing of students. Refer to:

- [Structure Workplace Learning](#)
- [School Based Apprenticeships and Traineeships](#)
- [Work Experience](#)
- [School Community Work](#)

### Independent Study

Year 12 students only will have one study block of 5 periods across the week. This will be timetabled as a formal 'study class'. Students will not be permitted to leave school grounds during these sessions and are to work from the Library or Senior Centre at these times.

### 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

## COMMUNICATION

This policy will be communicated to our school community in the following ways

- Included in staff induction processes
- Discussed at staff briefings or meetings, as required
- Made available in hard copy from school administration upon request

Information for parents and students on supervision before and after school is available on our school website and parent reminders are sent at the beginning of each term in our school newsletter.

## 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](#)
  - [School Based Apprenticeships and Traineeships](#)
  - [School Community Work](#)
  - [Structured Workplace Learning](#)
  - [Supervision of Students](#)
  - [Visitors in Schools](#)
  - [Work Experience](#)

## POLICY REVIEW AND APPROVAL

Policy last reviewed	October 2022
Approved by	Principal
Next scheduled review date	2024

This policy will also be updated if significant changes are made to school grounds that require a revision of Mount Rowan Secondary College's yard duty and supervision arrangements.