

FRANKSTON SPECIAL DEVELOPMENTAL SCHOOL DUTY OF CARE POLICY

Rationale

Frankston Special Developmental School owes a legal duty of care to all students. This requires staff to take such measures as are reasonable to protect students from injury that could have been reasonably foreseen.

Aim

- To provide suitable and safe premises
- To provide an adequate system of supervision
- To implement strategies to prevent bullying
- To ensure medical assistance is provided to sick or injured students

Implementation

- Frankston SDS will follow the Department of Education and Training (DET) Occupational Health and Safety Management System in order to provide a suitable and safe environment for students
- Appropriate ratios of qualified staff will be allocated to activities, playgrounds and excursions/camps to ensure appropriate levels of supervision are maintained for student safety. These ratios will take into account:
 - the experience, qualifications and skills of staff (including volunteers, instructors, etc)
 - the age, maturity, physical characteristics and gender of students
 - the ability and experience of the students
 - the size of the group
 - any other relevant factors
- Frankston SDS will promote the welfare of students through:
 - Implementing a *School-Wide Positive Behavior* approach to welfare and discipline
 - Complying with the *Disability Standards for Education*; in particular preventing bullying, harassment and victimization
 - Providing qualified first aid staff to support sick or injured students
- Staff will endeavor to ensure the safety of students by taking a *risk assessment approach* to planning all school activities, both in and out of the school grounds
- Staff will document accidents and injuries to students on CASES 21, in line with DET policy
- Parents/Carers will be informed regular playground supervision hours and that no formal supervision of the grounds occur outside those hours

This policy was last ratified by School Council in

March 2015