



Supervision (General) Policy

Context

St Patrick's College is a Catholic day and boarding school for boys in the Edmund Rice tradition, established in 1893. St Patrick's College is committed to providing a caring, supportive, and safe environment where every student has a place, a voice and their story is known. Edmund Rice Education Australia is committed to providing safe and supportive environments where all children and young people entrusted to our care are affirmed in their dignity and worth as a person.

Background

Edmund Rice Education Australia – Victorian Schools Limited (EREA-VSL), as St Patrick's College's governing authority, sets the policy framework for all EREA-VSL schools. These policies have been contextualised for St Patrick's College's particular school environment so that our policies reflect the needs of our students*.

*Student includes any person enrolled in the College, either as a day pupil or as a boarder.

Source of Obligation

St Patrick's College and its teachers owe a duty to take such measures as are reasonable in all the circumstances to protect students from risks of harm that reasonably ought to be foreseen. Refer to **Student Duty of Care Summary** for more detail.

The provision of adequate supervision is fundamental to ensuring that St Patrick's College meets its duty of care obligations.

St Patrick's College is committed to providing a safe environment for all our students when they are in the care of the College.

St Patrick's College's Policy

It is our policy that supervision is provided to students having consideration to the degree of care needed for the protection of students and having regard to:

- their age, skill and experience;
- any physical and/or intellectual impairments;
- existing medical conditions;
- known behavioural characteristics;
- the nature of activities being undertaken and hazards;
- Supervising staff receive first aid training and adequate first aid facilities are available having regard to the nature of the activities being undertaken (refer to First Aid Policy);
- Accidents and incidents are promptly dealt with through appropriate treatment and/or intervention;

- Material accidents and incidents are recorded and corrective action implemented where required (refer to policies relating to Reporting of Safety Hazards and Capturing Records of Student Injuries).

St Patrick's College has developed the following guidelines with respect to supervision.

Classrooms

Teachers are responsible for the supervision of their students in their classrooms and in particular should be vigilant to ensure:

- Adequate age appropriate supervision having regard to the nature of the activities being undertaken;
- Proper use of any plant and equipment;
- Proper handling of any hazardous substances;
- Proper use of relevant protective equipment.

Cross Campus: Boat Shed

Please refer to our excursion policy and EMS360: ACE

Before & After School Supervision

Whilst the College is committed to ensuring student safety it requires and expects parental co-operation in managing safety issues immediately before and immediately after school.

As a general rule St Patrick's College provides limited supervision before and after school.

Where school activities are arranged before or after school appropriate supervision will be provided for attending students depending on the time and location of the activity.

Parents are informed of supervision arrangements and are made aware that students who attend school outside established supervision times may not be supervised and may not receive the care that is normal during the school day.

Implementation

This policy is implemented through a combination of:

- Staff training;
- Effective communication and incident notification procedures;
- Effective record keeping procedures; and
- Initiation of corrective actions where necessary.

Discipline for Breach of Policy

Where a staff member breaches this policy St Patrick's College may take disciplinary action, including in the case of serious breaches, summary dismissal.

Status of Policy

This policy has been downloaded from CompliSpace, is endorsed by EREA-VSL and is reviewed annually.

Policy owner	St Patrick's College - Ballarat
Approving authority	Principal
Approval date	Sept 2025
Risk rating	HIGH
Date of next review	Jan 2027
Publication details	School website

POLICY DATABASE INFORMATION

Assigned TERE Board Framework	Child Safety
Related policies	Accident Management Policy Anaphylaxis Policy First Aid Policy OH&S Policy Pastoral Care Policy Student Concussion Policy Supervision (Yard Duties) Policy