

## **Rationale**

This policy has been devised to ensure the safety and well-being of students in the Kindergarten play area at designated times during the course of the school day.

## **Aims:**

- To provide a safe environment for students to eat and play during recess and lunch.
- To fulfil duty of care through supervision.
- To support social interaction, physical growth and development in an environment that promotes and follows the school sun-safe and behaviour policies.
- To promote respect of the school grounds and equipment.

## **Principles:**

- Children are not permitted to use the kindergarten playground before or after school.
- Children must wear a hat. If they do not have a hat, they need to play in the covered areas.
- Teachers ensure the play area and equipment used in the area is inspected and maintained regularly.
- Staff will ensure that equipment is installed and positioned safely and the area is kept clean and clear of hazards.
- Teachers will consider children's skills and behaviour when setting up play equipment.
- Assistants will take turns at setting out the play equipment under the direction of the teachers.
- Children are not permitted to leave the play area unless authorised by their classroom teacher.
- All children are responsible for assisting teachers in packing away the toys and equipment. It is the responsibility of the children and the teachers on duty to ensure the play area is left clean.

## **Supervision**

- Teachers will supervise recess play with assistants available to take over if needed.
- Classroom teachers will go to lunch first while the assistants supervise the children as they eat lunch. Assistants will ensure children put their lunch box away, place any rubbish in the bin and pack away their mat. Children are to play on the veranda outside their classroom until their teacher sends them to play.
- Special needs assistants will arrange lunch time duties with their classroom teacher.

## **Wet Weather**

- In the event of rain during recess or lunch, classroom teachers will supervise their own class in their room or on the veranda.
- Staff may choose to share responsibility of supervision if consecutive days of wet weather should occur.

## **Behaviour Management**

- Teachers will use their own strategies for dealing with minor behaviour issues in the play area. This may involve speaking to the child/children or asking them to take time out and sit on the bench for no longer than five minutes. The teacher who sat the child/children out will talk with the child and remind them of the rules before releasing them.
- If a teacher deals with an incident involving children not from her class, she will inform the child's classroom teacher.
- Staff will reward positive behaviour.

## Emergencies

- In an emergency, all staff are required to return to their classroom in order to supervise the students.
- Standard evacuation procedure is to be followed.

## Playground Rules:

- We listen to the teacher.
- We play together and look after one another.
- We ask children who are on their own to join us.
- We do not jump off the climbing frames.
- We go up the ladder and down the slide.
- We keep the sand in the sandpit.
- We only throw balls and bean bags, not sand or toys.
- We walk on the paved areas.
- We do not play with sticks.
- We look after the school equipment.
- If you do not have a hat, you need to play on the veranda.
- We all help pack away when the bells ring.