

## YARD DUTY AND SUPERVISION POLICY



### Help for non-English speakers

If you need help to understand the information in this policy please contact Newcomb Secondary College (03-5248-1400), or visit the DET Website <https://www.education.vic.gov.au/Pages/translation.aspx>

### PURPOSE

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

### SCOPE

This policy applies to all teaching and non-teaching staff at Newcomb 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.

#### Before and after school

Newcomb Secondary College's grounds are supervised by school staff from 8:30am until 3:45pm. Outside of these hours, school staff will not be available to supervise students.

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.

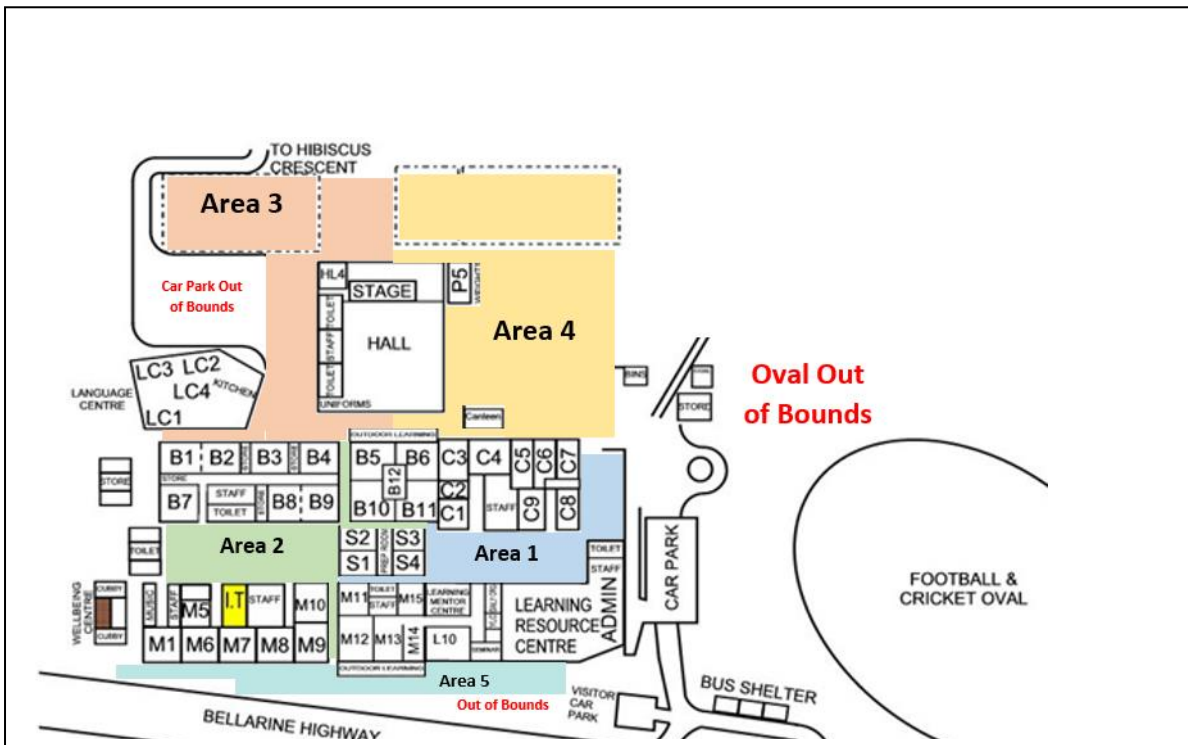
### Yard duty

All staff at Newcomb Secondary College are expected to assist with yard duty supervision, and these responsibilities will be outlined in a Daily Org communication each morning. Compass will also reflect this process and the distribution of supervision across all of the College's areas.

### **Yard duty zones**

The designated yard duty areas for our school (as at insert date eg Term 1, 2021) are:

<b>Area</b>	<b>Focus</b>
1	Eastern quadrangle
2	Western quadrangle
3	Outdoor sports and rec space including all weather soccer pitch
4	Multipurpose grassed area and bike shed
5	Front of school site, nearest Bellarine Hwy



## Yard duty responsibilities

Staff who are rostered for yard duty must remain in the designated area until they are replaced by a relieving staff member.

During yard duty, supervising school staff must:

- methodically move around the designated area to ensure appropriate coverage
- ensure students remain in their designated year level zones
- be alert and vigilant to the events, interactions and atmosphere of the school yard
- intervene immediately if potentially dangerous or inappropriate behaviour is observed
- 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

If being relieved of their yard duty shift by another staff member, 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 staff member is unable to conduct yard duty at the designated time, they should contact as member of the College Leadership Team and Daily Org personnel with as much notice as possible prior to the relevant yard duty shift to ensure that alternative arrangements are made.

If the supervising staff member needs to leave yard duty during the allocated time, they should contact the College Leadership Team and Daily Org personnel, but should not leave the designated area until the relieving staff member has arrived in the designated area.

If the relieving staff member does not arrive for yard duty, the staff member currently on duty should notify College Leadership Team and Daily Org personnel and not leave the designated area until a relieving staff member 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.

If a teacher needs to leave the classroom unattended at any time during a lesson, they should first contact College Leadership Team and Daily Org personnel 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.

### **Digital devices and virtual classroom**

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

Newcomb 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 College Learning Resources Centre (LRC), subject specific classrooms and Area 1 during non-class time.

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

- student attendance will be monitored on Compass.
- 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 will be required to remain onsite for free periods (unless otherwise negotiated with parents/carers), and can work independently in the Language Centre or LRC. However, free periods at the beginning or end of the school day, could enable a late arrival to or early departure from the school site, with signed consent from the student's parent or guardian. Newcomb Secondary College promotes a 'once on, once off' approach to managing the movement of students across the day.

### **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 operations guidance issued by the Department.

## **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
- Included in our staff chronicle
- Included as a reference in our school newsletter each term
- 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 reminders will be shared 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	2024
Approved by	Principal
Next scheduled review date	2025

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