



DUTY OF CARE

STATEMENT

January 2025

Girton Grammar School is committed to the safety and wellbeing of children and young people.

“Duty of Care” is a legal obligation that requires schools to take reasonable steps to reduce the risk of reasonably foreseeable harm, which can include personal injury (physical or psychological) or damage to property. The reasonable steps that our school may decide to take in response to a potential risk or hazard will depend on the circumstances of the risk.

Our school has developed policies and procedures to manage common risks in the school environment, including:

- Yard duty and Supervision
- Bullying Prevention
- Activities, Camps and Excursions
- First Aid
- Child Safe Standards
- Emergency Management
- Volunteers/Visitors
- Working with Children and Suitability Checks
- Mandatory Reporting
- Occupational Health and Safety
- Child Safe Mandatory Reporting & Responding
- Information Systems - Electronic

Our school acknowledges we are required to take reasonable precautions to prevent the abuse of a child by an individual associated with the organisation while the child is under the care, supervision or authority of the organisation.

Staff at our school understand that school activities involve different levels of risk and that particular care may need to be taken to support younger students or students with additional needs. Our school also understands that it is responsible for ensuring that the school premises are kept in good repair and will take reasonable steps to reduce the risk of members of our community suffering injury or damage because of the state of the premises.

School staff, parents, carers and students are encouraged to raise any concerns about risks or hazards at our school, or our duty of care obligations.

External Providers

Staff at our school acknowledge that, as our duty of care is non-delegable, we are also required to take reasonable steps to reduce the risk of reasonably foreseeable harm when external providers have been engaged to plan for or conduct an activity involving our students. Our Volunteer and Visitor Policy and Activities, Camps and Excursions Policy include information on the safety and care of our students when engaged with external providers.

Our school also takes steps to ensure student safety when they are engaging in off-site workplace learning programs with external providers, such as when students are participating in work experience, structured workplace learning and any other workplace learning program involving external providers. Our School will follow all applicable policies and guidelines in relation to off-site learning and will ensure that the safety and welfare of the students engaging in these activities is paramount.

Communication

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

- Provided to staff at induction and included in the Litmos training and compliance system.
- Discussed at staff meetings/briefings as required
- Made available publicly on our school website
- Available on ASTRA
- Included as annual reference in school newsletter
- Made available in hard copy from school administration upon request.

The next review of this Statement will occur in January 2026.