

## Duty of Care Policy for the School Community

<b>Ratification Date:</b>	<b>Next Review:</b>	<b>Availability:</b>	<b>Actions:</b>						
<b>RNS Board 01/09/2021</b>	<b>By 01/07/2022</b>  or after an event or changes to the minimum standards as advised by the VRQA	<table><tr><td><b>Web</b></td><td><b>x</b></td></tr><tr><td><b>Office</b></td><td><b>X</b></td></tr><tr><td><b>On Request</b></td><td><b>X</b></td></tr></table>	<b>Web</b>	<b>x</b>	<b>Office</b>	<b>X</b>	<b>On Request</b>	<b>X</b>	
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<b>On Request</b>	<b>X</b>								

### 1.0 PURPOSE

The purpose of this policy is to explain to the River Nile School community the non-delegable duty of care obligations that all staff at owe to our students and members of the River Nile School community who visit and use the River Nile School premises.

### 2.0 SCOPE

This policy is applicable to all members of the River Nile School community including volunteers. The River Nile School complies with Ministerial Order 870, Child Safe Standards — Managing the risk of child abuse in schools. Risks and associated duty of care in relation to COVID-19 is covered in **RNS COVID Safety Plan**.

### 3.0 IMPLEMENTATION

“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 the River Nile School may decide to take in response to a potential risk or hazard will depend on the circumstances of the risk.

The River Nile School has developed policies and procedures to manage common risks in the College environment, including:

- Child Safe
- Mandatory Reporting
- Child Safety Responding and Reporting Obligations
- Staff Recruitment and Employment
- Duty of Care for Staff
- Yard Duty and Supervision
- Anti-bullying and Harassment
- Digital Technologies
- Camps and Excursions

- First Aid
- Maintenance
- Personal Property
- External Providers
- Emergency Management
- Volunteers
- Visitors
- Working with Children Checks
- Occupational Health and Safety

Staff at the River Nile School understand that College activities involve different levels of risk and that particular care may need to be taken to support students or students with additional needs. The River Nile School also understands that it is responsible for ensuring that the River Nile School premises is 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.

College staff, parents, carers and students are encouraged to speak to the Principal to raise any concerns about risks or hazards at the River Nile School, or our duty of care obligations.

#### **4.0 COMMUNICATION**

All the aforementioned policies can be accessed on the River Nile School's webpage or on request at reception.

#### **5.0 ASSOCIATED DOCUMENTS**

- RNS Business Plan
- RNS Duty of Care Policy for Staff
- RNS Child Safety Policy
- RNS COVID Safety Plan