

PLAYGROUND EQUIPMENT

POLICY

Rationale:

- Playgrounds are essential pieces of school equipment, providing children with opportunities to develop physical and creative play skills, as well as providing unique experiences for children to develop relationships, friendships and personal awareness.

Aims:

- To provide safe, exciting, challenging and adventurous playgrounds which comply with Australian Standards and Department of Education and Training (DET) requirements.

Implementation:

- We strive to have attractive and exciting playgrounds for our children.
- The development and maintenance of playgrounds is the responsibility of school council.
- When new equipment is required School Council will form a 'Playgrounds Sub-committee', which will carry out or co-ordinate duties in relation to playgrounds and equipment including fund raising, installation and maintenance.
- The committee, in consultation with a professional consultant, will design a playgrounds concept plan that caters for the needs of the children, that complements the existing environment, and that is affordable and manageable. Students are recognised as significant contributors in the process of playgrounds design.
- Due to potential legal liability issues, all of our new play equipment will be designed, manufactured, installed and tested by professional playgrounds equipment manufacturers, and will comply with the Australian Standards.
- Similarly, soft landing areas that comply with the relevant Standards will be installed and maintained under and around all play equipment.
- Maintenance for all outside play areas is to form part of the regular cycle of inspection and maintenance of school property.
- Identified maintenance issues will be prioritised for attention and dated on the relevant inspection report when completed.
- The principal will ensure that any unsafe equipment is prevented from being used until it is repaired, replaced or removed.
- Regular visual inspections by teaching staff during before school and general yard duty will be carried out to check for vandalism or damage.
- During recess, lunchtime and 15 minutes before the start of school there will always be a teacher on yard duty.

Evaluation:

- This policy will be reviewed as part of the three year cycle.

This policy was last ratified by School Council in....

June 2019



Cavendish Primary School is committed to Child Safety – We have a zero tolerance for child abuse.

Ref: Guidelines for School Playgrounds:

http://www.sofweb.vic.edu.au/edulibrary/public/propman/facility/PlaygroundGuidelines_2005.pdf

Vic Govt Schools Reference Guide - http://www.eduweb.vic.gov.au/referenceguide/index/atoz_p.htm