

POLICY FOR THE SUPERVISION OF DAY BOYS BEFORE & AFTER CLASSES

1. Purpose of this Policy

- 1.1. The School recognises that it has significant responsibilities in taking on the role of supervising boys whilst in its care and will continue to be diligent in seeking to discharge those responsibilities. The welfare of all boys enrolled at the School is of the utmost importance to the School. This policy seeks to communicate the School's requirements that need to be observed in order to assist the School to provide the standard of care that parents expect and the School wants to provide to day boys before and after classes.
- 1.2. This School-wide policy explains the School's arrangements for the supervision of day boys whilst they are permitted to be on the School's premises.
- 1.3. The School is unable to provide adequate supervision of day boys at the School outside of a core period unless the boy is participating in a special activity that will have its own supervision arrangements as organised by a responsible staff member.
- 1.4. The policy is designed to assist parents and day boys to understand the measures the School has in place to safeguard student safety.

2. Supervision

- 2.1. The physical nature of the School and the range of areas accessible by boys need to be kept in mind when considering the reasonable level of supervision that the School is able to provide before and after classes. For the purposes of this policy the term "supervision" will mean a reasonable level of supervision by appropriate School staff following consideration of the various risks that are known and might arise. In this regard an extract from a recent High Court decision may assist parents to understand the School's aims, viz:-

*"it is not reasonable to have a system in which children are observed during particular activities for every single moment of time - it is damaging to teacher-pupil relationships by removing even the slightest element of trust; it is likely to retard the development of responsibility in children and it is likely to call for a great increase in the number of supervising teachers and the costs of providing them."*¹

¹High Court decision in *Trustees of The Roman Catholic Church for the Diocese of Canberra and Goulburn vs Hadba (2005)*.

- 2.2. In this context, “supervision” at the School before and after classes will mean that a teaching staff member will attend the designated areas but may also be moving from one area to another as part of their other usual duties including supervising other areas.
- 2.3. The School is aware that differing levels of supervision will be required dependent upon the age of the students involved, along with other circumstances and appropriate supervisory measures will be put in place.
- 2.4. In the event of injury the School Community is aware of the availability of the School’s Health Centre (ext 409) which is staffed by qualified nursing and other medical staff 24 hours a day during term time.

3. Prior to the commencement of School Activities

- 3.1. Day Boys from Kindergarten to Year 12 must not arrive at the School prior to 7.45am.
Parents need to be aware that there are no supervisory arrangements for day boys in place anywhere in the School prior to this time. Special arrangements for supervision may be advised by those staff organising specific School activities that commence prior to 7.45am.
- 3.2. Once boys arrive after 7.45am they should make their way to the following destinations:-
Preparatory School – Years K-2 - attend the K-2 Playground where they will be under the close supervision of a staff member. **Years 3-6** – other designated Preparatory School play areas where they will be supervised by staff in the vicinity.
Senior School - attend their Day Boy House that will be visited by a staff member or the Centre for Learning and Leadership where they will be under the supervision of a staff member.
Boys **arriving after 8am** may attend the same locations as above or go to:-
Senior School - the Quadrangle, Recreational Field or Harris Courts area where supervision by a staff member commences at 8am.

3.3. School activities generally commence at 8.20am in the Senior School (8.50am on Wednesday) and at 8.25am in the Preparatory School.

3.4. Staff organising other School activities prior to the commencement of normal School activities must ensure the arrangements eg time of arrival, for the attendance and the supervision of the boys have been communicated to relevant parents. Should an unforeseen event occur to prevent a staff member from being in attendance at the previously arranged location to ensure supervision of the boys, then they should have a contingency arrangement in place or contact either the School's resident caretaker on 0438 225 464 or a senior staff member, to alert them of the need to make alternative supervision arrangements.

4. Following the Completion of School Activities

4.1. Boys remaining at School following completion of classes and other usual School activities should either be:-

Preparatory School – in the care and supervision of after School carers as previously arranged in accordance with the requirements of the Preparatory School. The after school care arrangements conclude at 6.45pm and parents should ensure that they arrive before this time to collect their son.

Senior School – studying in the Centre for Learning and Leadership until 5.30pm when it closes for a dinner break for staff and boarders and reopens at 6.30pm till 9pm, Monday to Thursday and closes at 5pm on Friday. Arrangements must also be made for day students to partake in an evening meal if they are looking to return to the Centre when it reopens at 6.30pm. Parents should speak to their son's Housemaster about such arrangements.

4.2. Alternatively, boys may attend their Senior School day houses until 6pm when the designated roving supervision will conclude. After 6pm boys should depart the School or dine if they wish to study in the Centre.

4.3. Boys in either the Preparatory School or Senior School, who will be participating in an after School extra curricular activity, will have had the details of such activity previously advised to their parents by the organising staff member. Those details will include the location and time when students will be available for collection by an appropriate person. During such activities, boys will be supervised by a staff member or other appropriate person. The age, maturity and experience of the boys involved, along with all other relevant circumstances, will assist the organising staff member in determining whether they can be left unsupervised should their parents not arrive by the designated time.

5. Conclusion

- 5.1. The co-operation of parents and students is appreciated in assisting the School's efforts to safeguard student welfare by observing the above arrangements in respect to their attendance at the School before and after classes.
- 5.2. The School will review this policy on an ongoing basis and comments are invited to either Rev Stephen Edwards, the Deputy Headmaster at the Senior School (02 9683 8442 or see@kings.edu.au) or Mr Peter Allison, the Head of The Preparatory School (02 9683 8530 or PCA@kings.edu.au) or Mr Kevin Lee, the Deputy Bursar (02 9683 8401 or kjlee@kings.edu.au).

Mr A L George
Headmaster