**Tree Climbing Policy**

Aims

1. Kerry Street Community School considers tree climbing to be an important part of child development.
2. We see the benefits of tree climbing as:
3. providing good exercise*.*
4. providing opportunities to connect with nature*.*
5. supporting sensory development.
6. developing self-awareness of safety*.*

Scope and Application

This policy is available on the school website and applies to:

1. Employees
2. Students
3. Community members
4. Arbourists

## Principles

1. Students will be educated on self-assessing risk when climbing trees.
2. Trees will only be climbed by students during active supervision sessions such as break times.
3. Safety will be prioritised through maintenance.

## Responsibilities

1. **Board**
	1. Writing and updating this policy in consultation with relevant parties.
2. **Principal**
	1. Oversee implementation of this policy.
	2. Oversee tree maintenance program, and the scheduling of professional arbourists to conduct tree inspections.
3. **Admin Staff**
	1. Schedule regular tree inspections by a professional arbourist.
4. **Teaching Staff**
	1. Be familiar with the requirements of this policy.
	2. Educate students on tree-climbing safety (see *Tree Climbing Procedures*).
	3. Supervise students’ tree climbing.
5. **Parents/adult members of the school community**
	1. Report any concerns to teacher/Principal.
6. **Students**
	1. Use safe practices when tree-climbing (see *Tree Climbing Procedures*).

Related Kerry Street documentation

1. Procedures and Forms including:
	1. Tree Climbing Procedure
2. Kerry Street policies, including:
	1. Buildings and Grounds Policy
	2. Duty of Care Policy
	3. Excursion and Camp Policy
	4. Risk Management Policy

Contact Person

Enquiries relating to this policy should be directed to the Principal or the Board Chair.

Breaches of this Policy

Any breach of this policy may result in disciplinary action up to and including termination of contract.

**Authorisation and Review**

1. This policy established Aug 2012
2. Passed by council 2012
3. Reviewed June 2018
4. To be reviewed S2 2022

Revision History

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| Date | Revision | Detail |
| June 2018 | V.2 | Policy reviewed. Procedures separated from policy |
| April 2021 | V.2.1 | Formatted. Policy list updated. |
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