



Policy – Health & Safety Policy

Policy to support Health & Safety

Outcome statement

A primary objective of the board is to ensure that Pukekohe Hill School is a physically and emotionally safe place for all students and staff, as required by the Education and Training Act 2020 (s. 127) and in support of the Statement of National Education and Learning Priorities (NELP: Priority 1).

Scoping

At Pukekohe Hill School, we acknowledge our shared responsibility for health, safety, and welfare, and promote schoolwide engagement in related policies and procedures. Officers (see table below) at the school are encouraged to proactively undertake due diligence to ensure health and safety is prioritised by the board.

Delegations

The board, as the PCBU (Person Conducting a Business or Undertaking – see table below) under section 36 of the Health and Safety at Work Act 2015, must do what is reasonably practicable to ensure the health and safety of workers, and work to eliminate or minimise health and safety risks.

Expectations and limitations

The board regularly reviews how well it implements key legislative and regulatory requirements, including those related to health, safety, and welfare, and takes steps to address any gaps in implementation.

Health, safety, and welfare roles

The Health and Safety at Work Act 2015 defines different types of duty holders within a workplace, including schools. The Act outlines health and safety responsibilities for each type of duty holder.

Duty holder	School role
PCBU (Person Conducting a Business or Undertaking)	Board, including the principal
Officers	Individual board members, including the principal
Workers	Employees, including teachers and non-teaching staff, volunteer workers, and contractors
Other people at the workplace	Students, visitors, parents, whānau, and casual volunteers

The board will, as far as is reasonably practicable,¹ comply with the provisions of legislation dealing with health and safety in the workplace by:

- providing a safe physical and emotional learning environment
- ensuring a health and safety strategy/plan is in place and engagement and consultation on the strategy occurs with workers and the school community
- ensuring there are procedures in place regarding the sale, supply and consumption of alcohol and that these are aligned with the protection of students, staff and visitors to the school procedures and comply with the Sale and Supply of Alcohol Act 2012
- providing adequate facilities, including ensuring access and ensuring property and equipment is safe to use and students and workers are not exposed to hazards
- ensuring there is an effective method in place for identifying, assessing and controlling hazards, which includes recording and investigating injuries and reporting serious harm incidents
- having a commitment to a culture of continuous improvement through ongoing upskilling of staff and refreshment of health and safety procedures.

The principal, as officer, has responsibility for implementing this policy and therefore must:

- exercise due diligence in accordance with the provisions of the health and safety legislation and in particular the six due diligence obligations²
- take all reasonable steps to protect students, staff and visitors to the school from unsafe or unhealthy conditions or practices
- ensure the staff code of conduct is implemented effectively
- ensure there is zero tolerance to unacceptable behaviour, such as bullying, and that there are effective processes in place
- provide a smoke-free environment
- ensure a risk analysis management system (RAMS) is in place and carried out
- seek approval for overnight stays/camps/visits attesting first to their compliance with above
- consult with the community every 2 years regarding the health programme being delivered to students
- provide information and training opportunities to employees
- advise the board chair of any emergency situations as soon as possible
- ensure all employees and other workers at the school will take reasonable care to:
 - o cooperate with school health and safety procedures
 - o comply with the health and safety legislation and duties of workers
 - o ensure their own safety at work
 - o promote and contribute to a safety-conscious culture at the school

1. **Reasonably practicable** means what is or was reasonably able to be done at a particular time to ensure health and safety, taking into account and weighing up all relevant matters.

2. These are to:

- know about work health and safety matters and keep up to date
- gain an understanding of the operations of the organisation and the hazards and risks generally associated with those operations
- ensure the person conducting a business or undertaking (PCBU) has appropriate resources and processes to eliminate or minimise those risks
- ensure the PCBU has appropriate processes for receiving information about incidents, hazards and risks and for responding to that information
- ensure there are processes for complying with any duty and that these are implemented
- verify that these resources and processes are in place and being used.

Procedures/supporting documentation

Staff induction

Education outside the classroom, RAMS

Health and safety register

Hazard assessment register

Injury and incident reporting (procedure, checklist, board report, investigation form)

Emergency procedures, including for shut-down and evacuation

Administering medication

Accident management

Alcohol, smoking and drugs

Before and after-school care

Behaviour management – managing challenging behaviour and physical restraint (policy and procedures)

Civil defence and crisis procedures

Collection, storage and access to personal information

Concerns and complaints

Court orders against parents/caregivers

Cyber safety

First aid and infection (pandemic plan)

Healthy eating

Parent helpers / Adult behaviour at school (adult conduct at school)

Playground supervision

Police vetting

Protected disclosures
Sexual harassment
Sun smart (sun safety)
Transporting children

Monitoring

Board will be provided regular reports of serious accidents and student behavior reports as part of monthly board reporting

Legislative compliance

Education and Training Act 2020
Health and Safety at Work Act 2015

Reviewed: *August 2023*

Next review: *August 2026*
