



Hands Off Policy

POLICY LAST REVIEWED	October 2025	APPROVAL BY	Principal
REVIEW CYCLE	4 years	COMMUNICATION	Website, Compass notification



Help for non-English speakers

If you need help to understand the information in this policy please contact the school on 9703 1187

PURPOSE

Fountain Gate Primary School is committed to providing a safe and respectful environment where inappropriate physical contact will not be tolerated. At Fountain Gate Primary School, our values include Respect, Trust and Care. In alignment with these values, the 'Hand Off Policy' aims to contribute to an environment of safety. This policy encompasses both inappropriate touching and aggressive behaviours.

When responding to inappropriate touching or aggressive behaviour, Fountain Gate Primary School aims to:

- be proportionate, consistent and responsive
- find a constructive solution for everyone
- stop the inappropriate touching or aggressive behaviour from happening again
- restore the relationships between the students involved (physical aggression) or encourage appropriate body boundaries between students (inappropriate touching).

Fountain Gate Primary School acknowledges that school staff owe a duty of care to students to take reasonable steps to reduce the risk of reasonably foreseeable harm, which can include harm that may be caused by inappropriate touching and aggressive behaviours

POLICY

Policy Statement

The school is a professional learning environment. Physical contact between students should not occur unless it is part of a supervised activity (e.g. sport, first aid, or structured play). This includes:

1. No student is to touch another student in a way that is deemed inappropriate or unwanted by staff or the student themselves.
2. No student is to use physical violence or aggression toward another student.
3. Play fighting is not acceptable in the school environment.

4. Bullying, harassment, or stand-over tactics involving physical contact will not be tolerated.
5. Affectionate physical contact (e.g. hugging, hand-holding) should be avoided unless explicitly permitted by staff in a specific context.

Developmentally Appropriate Messaging

Teachers will use language that suits the age and developmental stage of their students. Example messaging includes:

- “We keep our hands to ourselves at school.”
- “Everyone has different comfort zones. Let’s respect each other’s space.”
- “If you want to high-five someone, ask first and it’s okay if they say no.”
- “Showing care means respecting boundaries.”

These messages will be reinforced regularly through classroom discussions, wellbeing lessons, and reflective circles.

COMMUNICATION

This policy will be communicated to our school community in the following way:

- Included in staff handbook/manual
- Discussed at staff briefings/meetings as required
- Hard copy available from school administration upon request
- Available publicly on our school’s website

FURTHER INFORMATION AND RESOURCES

This policy should be read in conjunction with the following Department policies and guidelines:

- Bullying Prevention Policy

The following school policies are also relevant to this Hands Off Policy:

- Student Wellbeing and Engagement Policy
- Child Safety Policy

POLICY REVIEW AND APPROVAL

Policy last reviewed	22/10/25
Consultation	School Council 22/10/25, School Staff
Approved by	Principal - Ilknur Moore
Next scheduled review date	October 2029