

# YEA PRIMARY SCHOOL PLAYGROUND EQUIPMENT POLICY

Ratified: July 2010

## **Rationale:**

- Playgrounds provide 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 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.
- School Council will form an 'Environment Sub-committee', which will carry out or co-ordinate duties in relation to playgrounds and equipment including installation and maintenance.
- Students are recognised as significant contributors in the process of playgrounds design.
- Due to potential legal liability issues, all new play equipment will be designed, manufactured, installed and tested by professional playgrounds equipment manufacturers, and will comply with the Australian Standards. (Reference: Guidelines for School Playgrounds: Playground Safety Management: February 2005)
- Similarly, soft landing areas that comply with the relevant Standards will be installed and maintained under and around all play equipment.
- A corresponding maintenance plan for all outside play areas will also be developed, implemented and funded.
- The school maintenance plan will include regular formal inspections.
- 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 or removed.
- Safe play is modelled throughout the curriculum.

## **Evaluation:**

- This policy will be reviewed every three years and after any significant playground accident or incident.