



# Playground Policy

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## Rationale

Play is essential for the social, emotional and physical development of children. It is important that the playground and recreational resources are available fairly to all students.

## Purpose

- To provide a safe, stimulating environment where children can take part in recreational activities that promote physical, social and emotional growth.
- To ensure that students and staff are aware of the behavioural expectations and safety requirements of the playground.
- To ensure that all students can feel happy, safe and secure in the playground.

## Guidelines

- A clear schedule of behavioural expectations and safety requirements will be discussed with each class at the beginning of the school year.
- A duty roster will be organised for staff with two staff members on duty during interval and three at lunchtime.
- Duty staff are responsible for monitoring the behaviour of students to ensure the safety and well-being of all students.
- Duty staff should take immediate action in the event of an accident, but first-aid staff should take over as soon as possible to enable the duty person to remain on supervisory duty.
- Duty staff should encourage students to maintain and protect the environment, and to play safely.
- Duty staff should identify and reinforce students interacting in a positive manner whenever possible.
- Supervision of lunch is the responsibility of class teachers until 12.40pm. Children should remain seated until 12.40pm, when they will be dismissed after the area has been checked for cleanliness. Junior children should be encouraged to remain until they have eaten a sufficient amount.
- The playground policy and the playground procedures apply to all students until 3.15pm.
- Any hazards identified by staff when on duty to be reported immediately to the office.

## Desired Outcome

A co-operative, active and safe playground where each child feels included and able to choose their recreational activity.

**See also:** Sun Protection Policy

**Approved:** 7 March 2011

**Review Date:** 2014

**Signed:**

# Playground Procedures

## Bells

- 8.55am to signal start of day
- 10.50am to signal start after interval
- 1.30pm to signal start of afternoon

## Play Areas

The school playground is generally open to all children during the school day with the following exceptions:

- Junior Block deck – Year 1 & 2 only
- Viggers Centre - Not available unless under teacher supervision
- Junior Adventure Playground, Bottom Tiger Turf, Chimney, High Wire, Bars, High Slide – see notes next page
- The daily status of the playground will depend on weather and ground conditions
- Individual Teams may decide **OUTSIDE** for their students if it is a general **CHOICE** day
- The foyer outside the Library is considered to be “inside” space on fine days
- Library open from 1.00pm each day.
- Duty staff have the final say based on behaviour and conditions

## General Duty Teacher Responsibility

- At least two staff on duty throughout interval and lunch. A third teacher supervises Northland Park at lunchtime.
- Teachers remain with their class from 12.30 – 12.40pm (or by shared Team arrangement)
- Duty staff direct or bring injured children to the office for first aid staff to attend. Directed children should be accompanied by another child.

## Northland Park and Tennis Courts Duty

- One duty teacher will supervise crossing to Northland Park at 12.45 and 1.05 going with the children - and back at 1.00 and 1.25pm. Staff must take first aid kit and cellphone.
- Duty teacher swap at Northland Park – 1.05pm - Next teacher leaves promptly at 1.00 pm to ensure fair time.
- Children moving to Northland Park will line up at the pedestrian gate on Harbour View Road and be crossed by the duty teacher.
- If children are playing at Northland Park, a Duty Teacher must be present at all times. Duty teachers may decide to bring children back if the numbers wanting to play there do not warrant a Duty Teacher.
- The Duty Teacher may decide just to use the Tennis Courts if Northland Park is too wet and muddy.

## PE Resources for Lunchtime Use

- PE gear will be provided for each class to use at morning tea and lunchtime.

## Outside / Inside / Choice

- **Outside**  
ALL OUTSIDE (weather dependent)
- **Inside**  
ALL INSIDE (raining and/or strong wind and/or temperature inappropriate)
- **Choice** – *(not applicable to Year 1 students who will be all inside under teacher supervision or all outside)*  
Children choose to be either inside or outside  
Northland Park may be closed  
The Bottom Green may be closed  
Weather appropriate for outside play
- If conditions change, duty staff will be responsible for changing status and signs.
- When students are inside - behaviour must at all times be appropriate.
- Duty staff have discretion with respect to regarding weather conditions and behaviour
- A bell ringing indicates inside for everyone.

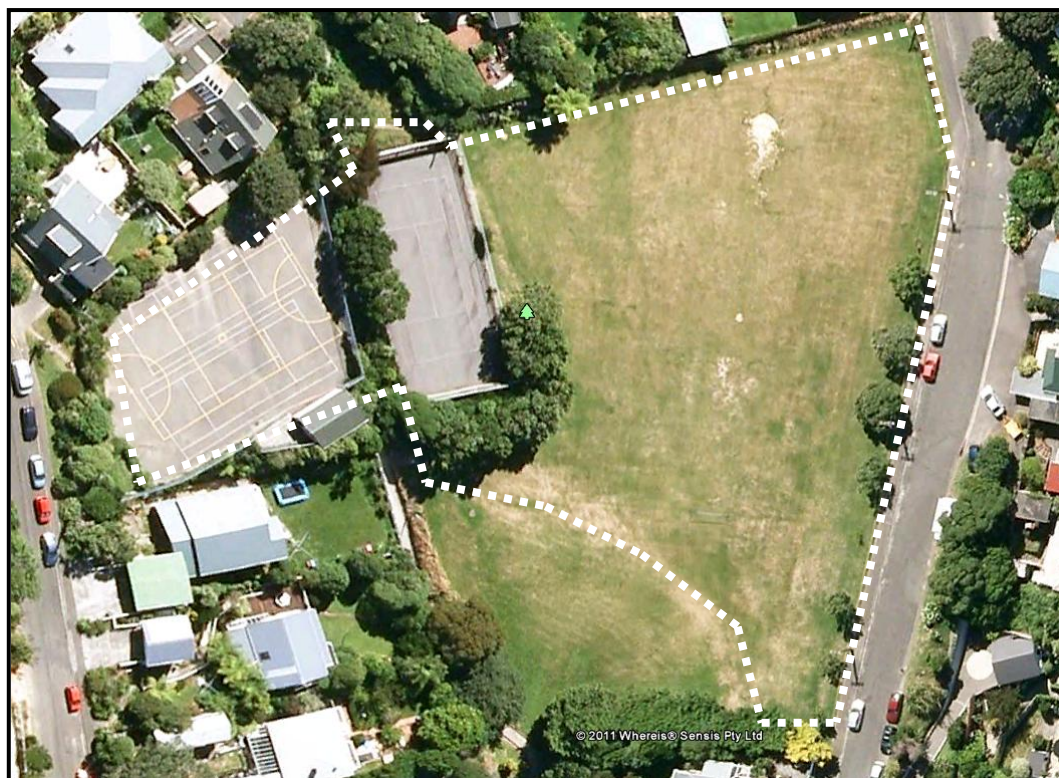
## Playground Allocation

### General Rules

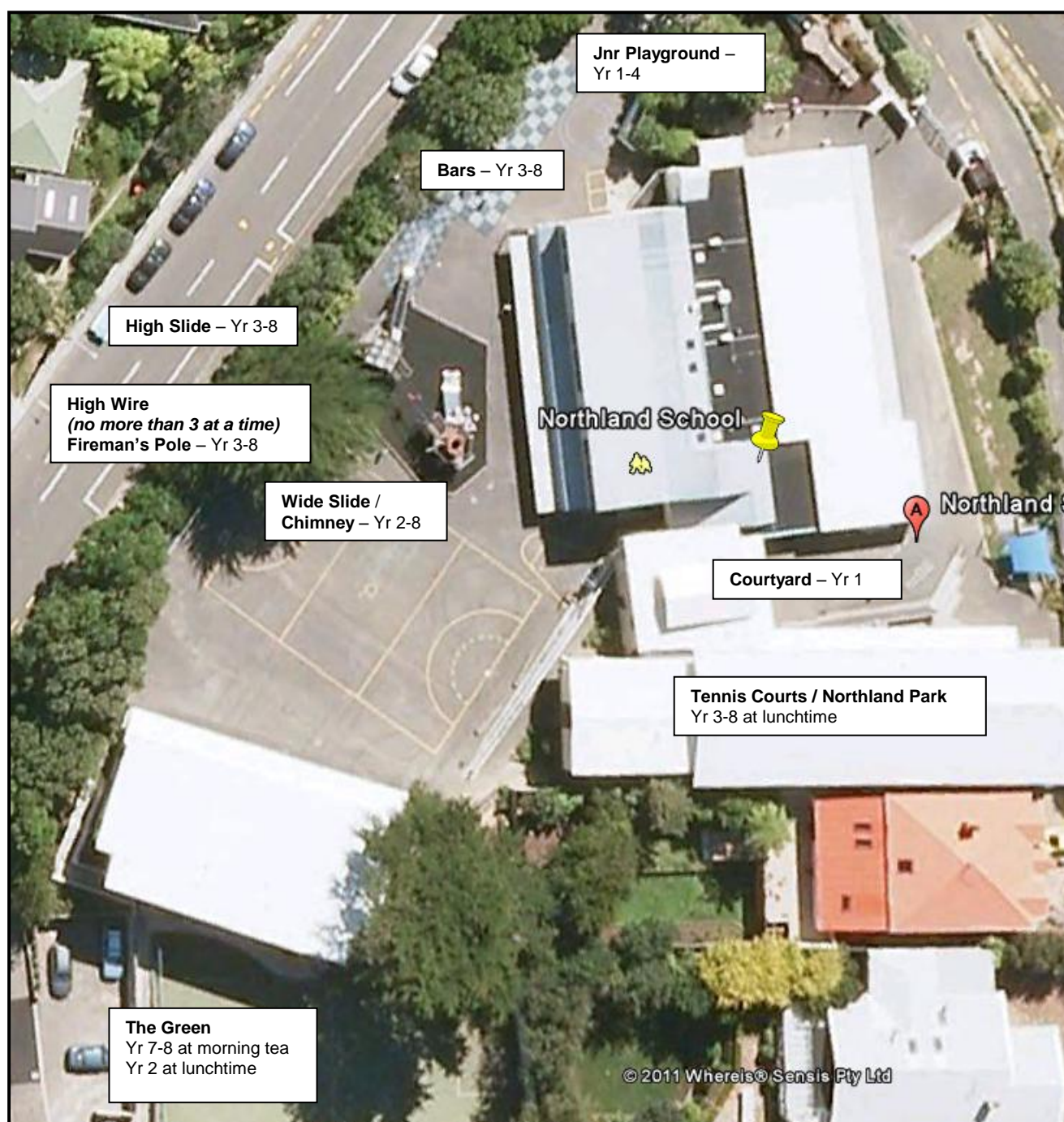
- Year 1 students only allowed to kick balls on grass area opposite the library at morning tea and lunchtime. No striking or kicking games on netball court or bars area except at PE and Sports times.
- Activities in Viggers only under teacher supervision.
- No climbing fences or trees
- Indoor activities on a choice day to be appropriate - "Would this activity be more appropriate outside?"
- If a ball goes over the fence, children must find the duty teacher who will supervise its retrieval.

Area	Who Can Use	Rules
Junior Adventure Playground	Years 1 - 4	No chasing games Keep off the bar above the rings
Wide Slide	Years 2 - 8	Feet first No walking up, blocking others, sliding on jerseys
Fireman's Pole	Years 3 - 8	
High Wire	Years 3 - 8	Only 3 at a time No chasing games
Chimney	Years 2 - 8	No climbing around the top edge
High Slide	Years 3 - 8	Feet first No walking up, blocking others, sliding on jerseys
Bars	Years 3 - 8	
Bottom Tiger Turf	Year 7 and 8 at morning tea Year 2 at lunchtime	
Northland Park and Tennis Courts	Year 3 - 8 at lunchtime	Boundaries ➤ Top of the steep bank ➤ Bottom of high bank areas above the tennis courts

### Boundaries on Northland Park



## Who Can Play Where...



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<b>Northland Park and Tennis Courts</b>	Year 3 - 8 at lunchtime	Boundaries ➤ Top of the steep bank ➤ Bottom of high bank areas above the tennis courts