TOY POLICY

Help for non-English speakers

If you need help to understand the information in this policy please contact briar.hill.ps@education.vic.gov.au

PURPOSE

Briar Hill Primary School is a Steiner influenced school which acknowledges the importance of play. We strive to create a warm and nurturing environment where play evolves through imagination. This policy is for teachers, parents, children and school administrators to have a consistent, collaborative understanding of the school's direction/handing of toys within the school grounds during school time.

POLICY

We aim to create a nourishing and home-like environment for the children. The school classroom provides the children with a wide range of natural, materials in a variety of textures and colours. These include raw, unfinished materials, such as wood, shells, cloths, wool, baskets, cushions, wooden bowls, pots and utensils. We believe natural toys cultivate imagination and connection with the environment.

The school encourages collaborative play outside with natural materials and items on the list below including Sports equipment e.g. footballs, basketballs and play pod items. The children are also supplied with equipment for sandpits such as pots and pans and small shovels.

In order to foster the Steiner influence philosophy, cultivate imagination and avoid conflict, loss or damage, we ask that toys are not brought from home. Teachers and school administrators will ensure that toys brought from home are kept in bags until the end of the day.

Some toys may be involved in working with a child's individual learning plan (ILP) or are needed for transitional comforters and these will be addressed on an individual basis.

'Toys' referred to include but are not restricted to;	**Items encouraged on the playground**
Child's play object - typically a model or miniature replica e.g. car, dog, baby	Basketball
Lego	Football
Trading cards	Tennis ball
Beyblades	Netball
Digital Technology / iPod / mobile phones	Craft

Skateboards	handballs
Shoes with roller skating capabilities	Volleyball
Scooters, Bicycles are not to be ridden on school grounds (but are **encouraged** for transport to and from school)	Frisbees
new fad toys	Child's individual learning plan items
	Other approved sporting items

COMMUNICATION

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

- Provided to staff at induction and included in staff handbook/manual
- Discussed at staff meetings/briefings as required
- Made available publicly on our school website
- Published annually in our school newsletter
- Made available in hard copy from school administration upon request

POLICY REVIEW AND APPROVAL

This Policy will be reviewed annually or more often if necessary due to changes in regulations or circumstances.

Policy last reviewed	November 2025
Approved by	School Council
Next scheduled review date (every year)	November 2027