1. **Purpose:**

1.1 School Council at Karoo Primary School operates under the *Education and Training Reform Act 2006*.

- The school council is established with a Constituting Order covering:
  - Membership, size and configuration
  - Objectives, powers, functions and accountabilities
  - Role of executive officer (principal)
- Regulation by:
  - *Education and Training Reform Regulations 2007*
  - Directors’ Code of Conduct under the *Public Administration Act 2004*

1.2 The School Council has specific functions under the *Education and Training Reform Act 2006*, including to:

- Establish the broad direction and vision of the school within the school community
- Participate in the development and monitoring of the school strategic plan
- Approve the annual budget and monitor expenditure
- Develop, review and update school policies
- Raise funds for school-related purposes
- Maintain the schools’ grounds and facilities
- Enter into contracts (e.g. cleaning, construction work)

2. **Implementation:**

2.1 School Councils operate under the *Education and Training Reform Act 2006*

School Council membership includes:

- Parents
  - Must be more than one third of total membership
  - Parents includes guardians
  - Department employees are eligible if their children attend the school and they do not work there
- Department Employees
  - Must not be more than one third of total membership
  - The principal automatically included
  - Other staff are elected or co-opted to this category
- Community
  - Optional category to expand skills and perspectives of the council
  - Co-option of community members and/or students
- The School Council at Karoo consists of 15 members:
  - Principal: Executive Officer, 4 DET members, 10 Parent/Community members.
2.2 Based on Directors’ Code of Conduct defined in *Public Administration Act 2004*, requires councillors to:

- Act with honesty and integrity
- Act in good faith in the best interests of the school
- Act fairly and impartially
- Use information appropriately
- Use their position appropriately
- Act in a financially responsible manner
- Exercise due care, diligence and skill
- Comply with relevant legislation
- Demonstrate leadership and stewardship

2.3 Indemnity for School Councillors:
- School Councillors are not legally liable for any loss or damage suffered by council or others as a result of reasonable actions taken in good faith.

2.4 Sub Committees
- Buildings and Grounds
  Planning and developing the school’s facilities such as its buildings and grounds; organising working bees and other actions to maintain or improve the appearance of the school; provide advice to school council on external groups who may be using the school’s facilities.
- Education and Policy
  Developing the educational policy for school council including camps and excursions, student well-being, student leadership and professional development. It may also involve developing school wide policies such as occupational health and safety, anti-discrimination and integration policies; being informed of the implementation of the strategic plan; reviewing school data such as NAPLAN assessment and school level data.
- Outside School Hours Care (OSHC)
  To ensure it is running effectively and meets standards and regulations.
- Finance / Marketing and Grants.

2.5 School Council will report annually to the school community and to the department

2.6 School council will:
- Be informed of and take into account the views of the community
- Regulate and facilitate the after-hours use of school premises and grounds
- Operate a children’s service – Out of School Hours Care (OSHC)

3. **Evaluation:**

This policy will be reviewed as part of the school’s three-year review cycle.