



ADVERSE WEATHER CONDITIONS POLICY

RATIONALE:

- Schools have a duty of care to staff and students at all times. This duty of care includes protection against adverse weather conditions, including wet weather and extreme heat during times when students would normally be outside.

AIMS:

- To ensure the wellbeing of students and staff during times of inclement weather by consistently implementing a planned management strategy that will cater for all circumstances.

IMPLEMENTATION:

- As part of the usual yard duty timetable process, an 'adverse weather conditions' timetable will be activated by the Principal or Assistant Principal when conditions outside are considered to be unsuitable for students and staff.
- Adverse weather condition is generally defined as rain, lightning, extreme heat or any other condition that is considered by the Principal or Assistant Principal to be unsuitable or unsafe.
- Where adverse weather conditions are obvious prior to children being dismissed for a recess or lunch break, an announcement will be made by the Principal / Assistant Principal advising class teachers to follow the adverse weather conditions timetable until further notice.
- In such cases, teachers will supervise grades (as timetabled), for equal amounts of time at recess or lunch break.
- All children will be confined to classrooms unless permission has been granted by a teacher to leave temporarily, e.g. toilet break.
- Children will be expected to stay indoors and undertake appropriate indoor games and activities.
- In the case of adverse weather conditions during a recess break, a yard duty teacher will inform the Principal/Assistant Principal of the possible need to activate the adverse weather conditions timetable.
- The Principal / Assistant Principal will assess the situation and make the decision to call the children inside or alternatively, to seek adequate shelter, in which case the yard duty teachers will continue to supervise outside.
- In the event of children being required to come inside the school buildings, yard duty teachers will supervise the corridor briefly while designated teachers make their way to the classrooms or other areas that they are required to supervise.
- In the event of adverse weather conditions prior to school hours, children will be permitted to enter their classrooms following an announcement by the Principal/Assistant Principal to do so.
- All staff and students are required to wear hats from September to the end of April consistent with the school's Sunsmart policy.
- Scheduled sport, physical education or other outside activities will need to be rescheduled or alternative arrangements made during times of adverse weather conditions.

EVALUATION:

This policy will be reviewed as part of the school's three-year review cycle. This policy was last updated in November 2019 and is scheduled for review in October 2022.