

EXTREME WEATHER POLICY

RATIONALE

These guidelines have been developed to ensure that duty of care of our students is maintained during extreme hot or wet weather periods. It has been updated to comply with the Department of Education's 'Student Health in Public Schools Policy and Procedure documents (2023).

Please note that a PA announcement prior to break times to advise staff and students of the extreme weather procedures to follow. This may include the closing of some areas due to safety concerns (e.g. Nature Play).

WET WEATHER PROCEDURES: Kindergarten to Year 6

- **Wet weather prior to recess/lunch break**
 - **Years 5-6**
Students go to undercover area - supervision by senior area duty staff. Note: Students may wish to bring something to do as ball games will not be permitted. Where it stops raining, senior students will be able to go to the senior oval/playground or remain in the undercover area.
 - **Years 3-4**
Students remain in classrooms or wet area - supervision by middle area duty staff. Where it stops raining, students will be able to go out to the playgrounds or undercover area.
 - **Years 1-2**
Students go to area outside library to eat. Lunch activities will include investigations play in the shared wet area or a movie/show in the library (negotiated with block/duty teachers). Supervision by junior area duty staff.
 - **Year K-PP**
Students sit outside the classroom to eat as is usual, they may move slightly if areas are damp. Play will occur under the fixed shaded areas of the playground. If excessively wet and windy, the timetable will be adjusted to allow outside play when weather is permitting.
- **Severe wet weather prior to recess/lunch break**
 - Students should remain in their classrooms with their class teachers during times of very wet, cold or stormy conditions. Eating in class is permitted, however please ensure mess is minimized and rubbish is disposed of appropriately.
 - Students should be given access to toilet use.
 - Specialist teachers should assist in each block by giving class teachers a short break (Music – Junior Block; Phys Ed – Middle Block; Science/French – Senior Block).
- **Severe wet weather during recess/lunch break**
 - A member of the administration will sound the siren, upon which students and staff will return to their classrooms.
- **Light rain**
 - Students may seek shelter underneath the verandahs, in the Undercover Area or near the library. Once the rain stops, students may return to play.

HOT WEATHER PROCEDURES Kindergarten to Year 6

In the event of extreme hot weather (once over 35 degrees) the following will be put in place:

1. Lunch boxes to be brought into classrooms/wet areas for storage
2. Sunscreen will be available outside classrooms
3. Library will be opened for students to access at lunch time
4. Basketball and tennis courts will be closed for play at recess and lunch times
5. Checking of early childhood play equipment to monitor heat levels of metal structures

6. Hats are required to be worn by all students when playing in the sun during recess and lunch times. Where a child does not bring a hat they will be restricted to sheltered areas
7. Students will be encouraged to drink water regularly throughout the day
8. Fitness activities will be reduced to no more than 10 minutes
9. Physical education lessons will, where possible, occur in shaded areas and/or the undercover area. Regular rest and drink breaks will be incorporated into the lessons
10. School-based sport will be cancelled

VERY HIGH UV PROCEDURES

In the event of very high or extreme UV (8+) the following will be put in place:

1. UV rating will be announced on the PA before break times and:
 - Children will be encouraged to apply sunscreen
 - Children will be encouraged to play in the shade
2. Physical education lessons will, where possible, occur in shaded areas and/or the undercover area

This policy works in conjunction with the Student Uniform and Dress Code Policy.

Review Date: 2026