



Extreme Weather & Sun Protection Policy

Date: March 2021
Evaluation and Review: March 2022

Rationale:

On days forecast by the Weather Bureau as 36°C or more, the hot weather policy applies.

This means students stay under shade, if outdoors, and at the duty teachers' discretion the siren may be sounded to indicate that students need to return to classrooms. Both lunchtime duty teachers will confer as to whether play is ended. Parents are reminded to ensure children apply sun block and bring their water bottles daily.

Implementation:

Teacher responsibility

- Encourage students to store recess and lunch items in the classroom or fridge
- Encourage students to drink water
- Re-schedule or cancel outside activities including daily fitness, sport and excursions
- Teachers in adjoining rooms release each other for a break where there is no outside play (refer to roster for release)

Leadership Team Responsibility

- Leadership team ensure a temperature update is obtained from www.bom.gov.au and sound the siren if necessary
- Develop a roster at the beginning of each year to support teachers and areas requiring assistance with supervision during inside play
- Where it is raining at the beginning of a play period, these guidelines will also apply. If the rain stops during this time, a siren may be sounded to allow students outside. This decision will be made by a member of the leadership team
- If rain begins during a play period, a siren may be sounded and children and staff will return to classrooms

Crossing duty

- If over 36 degrees at 3:00pm, crossing monitors will not be expected to do the afternoon crossing duty, however the staff member on duty will need to be at the crossing. The staff member is advised to wear a hat, sunscreen and take a water bottle
- If the temperature is between 30 – 36 degrees, the crossing monitors must wear a hat, sunscreen and take water bottles
- If the weather is stormy and there is a risk of lightning, crossing monitors are not expected to be on duty. This does not apply in rainy weather as protective clothing is supplied

Competition Sport

On days where the estimated maximum is 36 degrees, interschool and competitive sport & training will be cancelled. This decision will be confirmed by the host school following discussions. The procedure will also apply to days of extreme weather.

Before School Inclement Weather

Yard supervision commences at 8.30am. Students should not be in the yard before this time unless being supervised by a parent/carer.

In the event of inclement or extreme weather the PA system will be used to advise that students may

enter the building and wait in an appropriate manner until the class or supervising teacher arrives. The learning program will commence at 9.00 am.

After School Inclement Weather

In the event of extreme weather at the end of the school day, students will remain indoors until collected by parents/carers.

Please Note: School leadership may override this policy if circumstances on the day change. Where an excursion is planned for a day of HOT or EXTREME weather, leadership will determine the safety of the excursion and advise if it should continue. If it is decided to cancel the excursion a refund may not be possible and where possible the excursion may be rescheduled.

Sun Protection

All department school sites and early childhood education and care services must have a sun protection policy in effect for school terms 1, 3 and 4 and whenever ultra violet (UV) radiation levels reach 3 or above. Sites must inform the school community including employees, students, parents and volunteers of the sun protection policy. Children and young people are encouraged to be responsible for their own sun protection.

The school uses a combination of sun protection measures for all outdoor activities on and off site **during terms 1, 3 and 4** including:

Clothing

Sun protective clothing is included in the school uniform/dress code and sports uniform. The clothing is cool, loose fitting and made of closely woven fabric. It includes shirts with collars and elbow length sleeves, longer style dresses and shorts and rash tops or t-shirts for outdoor swimming.

Sunscreen

Students must provide their own SPF 30 or higher broad spectrum, water resistant sunscreen and the school supplies SPF 30 or higher broad spectrum, water resistant sunscreen for staff and students' use. Sunscreen is applied at least 20 minutes before going outdoors and reapplied every two hours if remaining outdoors. Strategies are in place to remind students to apply sunscreen before going outdoors (e.g. reminders from teachers).

Hats

All students and staff are required to wear hats that protect their face, neck and ears e.g. legionnaire, broad brimmed or bucket hats whenever they are outside. Baseball or peak caps are not acceptable. Hats are not required for outside play during Term 2 and until 1 September, Term 3.

Shade

Care is taken during the peak UV radiation times, and outdoor activities are scheduled outside of these times or in the shade where possible. Sports days and other outdoor events to be held during term two or earlier in the day where practical.

Students are encouraged to use available areas of shade when outside. Students who do not have appropriate hats or clothing are asked to stay in the shade or a suitable area protected from the sun.

Curriculum

Programs on skin cancer prevention are included in the curriculum for all year levels.

Sun Smart behaviour is regularly reinforced and promoted to the whole school community through newsletters, school website, parent meetings, staff meetings, school assemblies, student and teacher activities and in student enrolment packs. The information has been extracted from the [Cancer Council SA SunSmart policy](#)
