



## ADVERSE WEATHER CONDITIONS POLICY

### 1 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.

### 2 Aim

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.

### 3 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.

#### 3.1 Before Break Begins

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 follow the Wet Day timetable (as previously agreed to by the learning area teachers concerned), for equal amounts of time at the recess or lunch break.

Teachers will share supervision of the learning areas.

All children will be confined to learning areas unless permission has been granted by a teacher to leave temporarily, e.g. toilet breaks.

Children will be expected to walk indoors at all times and undertake appropriate indoor games and activities.

#### 3.2 During Break

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 playground briefly while designated teachers make their way to the learning areas.



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### 3.3 Before School

In the event of adverse weather conditions prior to school hours, children will be permitted to enter the hall at 8.45 a.m. following an announcement by the Principal/Assistant Principal to do so.

All staff and students are required to wear a hat during terms 1 and 4 consistent with the school's Sun smart policy.

Scheduled sport, physical education or other outside activities will need to be rescheduled or alternatively organised during times of adverse weather conditions.

### 4 Evaluation

Amendments to the policy will be made on a needs basis.

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