

Inclement Weather Policy



Rationale

Schools have a duty of care to staff and students at all times. This duty of care includes protection against inclement weather during times when students would normally be outside.

Aim

To ensure staff and students are comfortable, sheltered and safe from inclement weather conditions.

Definition

Inclement weather in this policy refers to rain, lightning, extreme cold, heat and wind.

Implementation:

- As part of the usual yard duty timetable process, an inclement weather timetable will be activated when conditions outside are considered to be unsuitable for students and staff.
- An announcement will be made by the Principal / Assistant Principal advising teachers to follow the inclement weather time-table until further notice. From 8:45am the students will go into their classrooms. The students will remain inside at the commencement of recess and lunch break times if the weather conditions are unsuitable. In the case of inclement weather during a recess or lunch break, whilst the students are outside, a yard duty teacher will inform the Principal of the possible need to activate the inclement weather timetable.
- The Principal will assess the situation and make the decision to call the students inside or alternatively, to seek adequate shelter, in which case the yard duty teachers will continue to supervise outside.
- In such cases, teachers on yard duty will supervise students in their grades and given opportunity to visit the toilets with peers when necessary. Students will be expected to walk indoors at all times and undertake appropriate indoor games and activities.
- When inclement weather presents itself from 3:20pm the Principal will make an announcement to invite parents who are waiting for their children into the school hallways and classrooms. Should the inclement weather continue after 3:30pm the parents, students a staff will be welcome to stay indoors until 3:45pm or until it is safe to exit.
- Parents picking up children from school during recess and lunchtime inclement weather timetables will be required visit the office. Office staff will call the teacher and have the children come to the office with their bags to be signed out.
- Parents bringing children to school during recess and lunchtime when an inclement weather timetable is in place will visit the office to sign the children in. Office staff will inform the parents and children where the children's grades are located (if not in their usual rooms).
- Scheduled sport, physical education or other outside activities will be rescheduled or alternatively organised during times of inclement weather.

Evaluation

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