



ARBOR GROVE PRIMARY SCHOOL

EXTREME WEATHER POLICY

Approved by School Board

Last Approval: October 2024

Purpose

- This policy provides guidelines for staff, parents and students and will be enacted by the school's administration.
- Duty of care provisions are the prime responsibility of the school.
- The following policy and procedures provide a safe environment for students and staff members by minimising the risks that arise during periods of extreme weather.

Type of weather

This policy will come into action where the temperature reaches and exceeds 37 degrees celsius; there is thunder and lightning and/or there is heavy rain/hail. The policy will also come into effect during any other inclement weather as determined by the administration.

General

Outside of school events such as athletic carnivals and interschool sport will be reviewed if the **BOM** (*Bureau of Meteorology*) indicates potentially extreme weather for that day. Students and parents will be notified of any cancellation or modification of the event.

If the weather has been declared inclement, all physical education lessons will be held in the undercover area.

Sun care guidance

For Staff:

- Modify teaching and learning programs to suit weather conditions
- Consult with parents, administration and where appropriate students, to develop agreed procedures for the effective sun protection and effective protection from overexposure to ultra violet (UV) radiation

For Parents:

- Schools are not closed during periods of prolonged high temperature.
- Parents may keep their child at home and provide an explanation of absence to the school.
- Parents may also withdraw students from the school program in negotiation with school staff.
- Use of SPF 30+ broad spectrum, water resistant sunscreen is promoted.
- All students are required to bring their own clearly labelled drink bottle to physical education lessons.
- Cool water is available from fountains and flexible drink breaks are provided.

Process

During Hot Temperature Days

Temperature >37°C

- Students' lunches are placed in the wet areas or classrooms.
- The duration of physical education activity is modified to being low impact and activities are held at an alternative shaded venue (for example, undercover area).
- Specific activities start earlier in the morning, for example, early childhood play.
- Outdoor activity is held at an alternative venue, for example the classroom.
- Physical education lessons are held in air-conditioned buildings.

- **Recess time Students stay in their blocks and classroom teachers supervise.**

- **Lunch time** Students will eat in the under covered area (which is air conditioned) and be supervised by the Administration Staff & Specialist teachers as per a prepared roster. Teachers will come and collect their class at the end of the eating time and return the students to their classroom for the remainder of the lunch break.

During Wet Weather Days:

- Administration will notify if wet weather process is to commence or to be cancelled.
- **Recess time** Students stay in their blocks and classroom teachers supervise.
- **Lunch time** Students will eat in the under covered area and be supervised by the Administration Staff & Specialist teachers as per a prepared roster. Teachers will come and collect their class at the end of the eating time and return the students to their classroom for the remainder of the lunch break.