

# policy **INCLEMENT WEATHER**

## **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.

## **AIMS**

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.

## **IMPLEMENTATION**

- As part of the usual yard duty timetable process, an inclement weather timetable will be activated by the Principal/Assistant Principal or staff member in charge when conditions outside are considered to be unsuitable for students and staff.
- Inclement weather is generally defined as extreme heat (above 35 degrees), rain, lightning, or any other condition that is considered by the Principal/Assistant Principal or staff member in charge to be unsuitable.
- Where inclement weather is obvious prior to students being dismissed for a recess or lunch break, an announcement will be made by the Principal/Assistant Principal or staff member in charge advising class teachers to follow the inclement weather time-table until further notice.
- In such cases, teachers will supervise a number of grades (as stated on the Yard Duty timetable), for a predetermined amount of time and then swap over.
- Teachers, other than classroom teachers, will similarly share supervision of the corridor, walkways and other areas (as pre-determined).
- All students will remain in their classrooms unless permission has been granted by a teacher to leave temporarily, e.g. toilet break.
- Students will be expected to walk indoors at all times and undertake appropriate indoor games and activities.
- In the case of inclement weather during a recess break, a yard duty teacher will inform the Principal/Assistant Principal or staff member in charge of the possible need to activate the inclement weather time-table.
- The Principal/Assistant Principal or staff member in charge 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 the event of students being required to come inside the school buildings, yard duty teachers will supervise the corridor briefly while designated teachers make their way to the classrooms, or other areas, that they are required to supervise.
- All staff and students are required to wear broad-brimmed hats during terms 1 and 4 consistent with the school's Sunsmart policy.
- Scheduled sport, physical education or other outside activities will need to be rescheduled or alternatively organised during times of inclement weather.

## **EVALUATION**

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

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