



Mernda Primary School 0488

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.

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 Leadership team when conditions outside are considered to be unsuitable for students and staff.
- Inclement weather is generally defined as extreme heat (35 degrees), rain, lightning, high wind or any other condition that is considered by the Leadership team to be unsuitable.
- Where inclement weather is obvious prior to children being dismissed for a recess or lunch break, an announcement will be made by the Leadership team advising class teachers to follow the inclement weather time-table until further notice.
- In such cases, teachers will supervise a number of grades as planned for by the timetabling coordinator. The inclement weather timetable will be at the discretion of the team leader to where teachers are allocated. The timetable will be revisited on a term by term basis.
- All children will be confined to classrooms unless permission has been granted by a teacher to leave temporarily, e.g. toilet break, canteen.
- Children will be expected to walk indoors at all times and undertake appropriate indoor games and activities suitable to their year level. E.g. drawing, board games, equipment deemed appropriate, DVDs etc. Computers/electronic devices are not to be used.
- In the case of inclement weather during a recess/lunch break, a yard duty teacher will inform the Leadership team of the possible need to activate the inclement weather timetable.
- The Leadership team 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 them briefly while designated teachers make their way to the classrooms, or other areas, that they are required to supervise.
- All children will adhere to the behaviour management policy and warnings and consequences will be adhered to, as set out in the policy. E.g. warnings and timeout etc.
- 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