

SCHOOL NO. 1727 - KIALLA WEST

Policy Statement: ENVIRONMENT 725 INCLEMENT WEATHER

725 - INCLEMENT WEATHER

Responsibility: Principal and Staff

This Policy was last reviewed in 2014.

Rationale:

- Schools have a duty of care to staff and students at all times. This duty of care includes protection against inclement weather.

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 teachers or principal when conditions outside are considered to be unsuitable for students and staff.
- Inclement weather is generally defined as extreme heat, rain, lightning, dust, wind, cold or any other condition that is considered by the Principal or teachers to be unsuitable.
- As a guide temperatures at 35°C or above are considered too hot for children to be outside for play or sport. Teachers may alter their timetables or utilise the multipurpose building to avoid inclement weather.
- Where inclement weather is obvious prior to children being dismissed for a recess or lunch break, an announcement will be made by the business manager advising class teachers to follow the inclement weather time-table until further notice.
- In such cases, teachers will supervise a number of grades (as previously agreed to by the teachers concerned), for half the recess or lunch break, then swap over.
- All children will be confined to classrooms unless permission has been granted by a teacher to leave temporarily, e.g. toilet break.
- Children will be expected to walk indoors at all times and undertake appropriate indoor games and activities.
- In the case of unpredicted inclement weather occurring during a recess break, a yard duty teacher will activate the inclement weather timetable.
- The Principal and teachers 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.
- Excursions, camps, scheduled sport, physical education or other outside activities may need to be reorganised or rescheduled should inclement weather occur be predicted.

Evaluation:

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