



**Kerrimuir Primary School
Policy Manual**

Inclement Weather

**Date: October 2011
Ratified: April 2012
Review: 2015**

Rationale:

Schools have a duty of care to staff and students at all times. This duty of care includes protection against adverse weather conditions, including wet weather and extreme heat during times when students would normally be outside.

Aims:

- To ensure the wellbeing of students and staff during times of inclement weather.

Implementation:

- As part of the usual yard duty timetable process, a 'wet day timetable' will be activated by the Principal, Assistant Principal or other senior staff member when conditions outside are considered to be unsuitable for students and staff.
- A 'wet day timetable' may cover inclement weather including rain, lightning, extreme wind, extreme heat, or any other condition that is considered by the Principal, Assistant Principal or other senior staff member to be adverse/unsuitable.
- Where adverse weather conditions are obvious prior to children being dismissed for a recess or lunch break, an announcement will be made by a member of staff advising class teachers to follow the wet day timetable until further notice.
- In such cases, teachers will supervise a number of grades (as previously agreed to by the teachers concerned & timetabled), for equal amounts of time at the recess or lunch break.
- All children will be confined to classrooms unless permission has been granted by a teacher to leave temporarily, e.g. toilet break. Toilets may be accessed by walking through corridors to outside covered walkways on these occasions.
- Children will be expected to behave sensibly at all times while indoors and undertake appropriate indoor games and activities.
- In the case of adverse weather conditions during a recess break, a yard duty teacher will direct students to undercover areas until an announcement is made to come inside.
- The Principal, Assistant Principal or other senior staff member 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 the corridor while designated teachers make their way to the classrooms, or other areas, that they are required to supervise.
- There must be at least two teachers supervising each building during wet day timetables.
- In the event of adverse weather conditions prior to school hours, children will be permitted to enter their classrooms from 8.45am and must be supervised by their class teacher.
- 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 adverse weather conditions.

Evaluation:

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