



Extreme Weather Policy



Help for non-English speakers

If you need help to understand the information in this policy please contact the Principal.

PURPOSE

To ensure that Maldon Primary School has procedures in place to protect children during periods of extreme weather including high winds, high temperatures, poor air quality and electrical storms.

POLICY

- In the event of extreme weather or poor air quality children will have restricted or no access to outdoor areas if conditions are deemed unsafe.
- An extreme weather timetable will be called by the Principal or nominated staff member. The decision will be based on current weather conditions and information from the Bureau of Meteorology <http://www.bom.gov.au/>. If weather conditions change the decision can be reversed and staff and students will be informed of the change.
- An extreme weather timetable may include no outdoor play, shortening of outdoor play, limiting outdoor play to shaded/undercover areas and limiting outdoor play to areas without trees.
- If the temperature is 38 degrees Celsius or above on the Bureau of Meteorology website, an extreme weather timetable will be called and children will not be permitted to play outside.
- In instances where outdoor play is optional, staff will be rostered on to supervise both indoor and outdoor spaces. Supervision will be shared equitably amongst staff.
- In the event of extremely inclement or dangerous weather conditions such as electrical storms, children will not be dismissed at 3.15pm but will instead be supervised indoors until conditions improve. Parents will be advised of this decision via a uEducateUs message as soon as the situation becomes apparent. Parents wanting to have their child leave the school at 3.15pm in the above weather conditions will need to come into the building to collect their child/children.
- In the event of extremely inclement or dangerous weather conditions children will not be put onto buses, even if the bus route has not been cancelled. Parents will be contacted and the children will remain at school under supervision until they are able to be collected.

COMMUNICATION

This policy will be communicated to our school community in the following ways:

- Included as an annual reminder in the school newsletter
- Discussed at staff meetings/briefings as required
- Made available publicly on our school website
- Made available in hard copy from school administration upon request

POLICY REVIEW AND APPROVAL

Policy last reviewed	August 2020
Approved by	Principal
Next scheduled review date	August 2024