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Inclement Weather/ Sun Smart Policy

RATIONALE

At Settlers Farm Campus, we monitor weather conditions to ensure student safety.

Inclement weather can affect everyday activities and comes in many forms. Inclement weather includes:

- extreme high temperatures
- high UV levels
- heavy rain, hail and snow
- strong winds
- severe dust or electrical storm
- flooding

When planning outdoor events, camps and excursions it is important to prepare contingency plans for the potential risk of inclement weather

Curriculum

- Programs on skin cancer prevention are included in the curriculum for all year levels.
- Sun Smart behaviour is regularly reinforced and promoted to the whole school community through newsletters, parent meetings, staff meetings, school assemblies, student and teacher activities and in student enrolment packs.

HOT WEATHER - communicated via OneNote, staffroom whiteboard, 3 bells before play, music sound during play and phone pager

- Hot weather policy will be in place when the forecast for Elizabeth according to the BOM site at 7am (on the forecast day) is for 37 degrees or over
- The leadership team will check BOM site at 8:00am 10:45 and 1:00pm on these days and advise whether children are able to go outside
- This information will be communicated via daily bulletin on OneNote
- Normal recess play time (unless otherwise advised as a result of the 10:45am BoM review)
- There will be no lunch play
- If students wish to go the canteen they need to wear a hat and may go directly along the pathway and return directly to their classroom
- At lunch teachers need to buddy where possible with neighbouring class teacher. Duty of care means that students must be in 'line of sight' during these times
- There is to be no outdoor activities after 12:00 noon
- Teachers may take their class into the shade for 20 minutes during lesson time after 12:00 noon
- Student leadership responsibilities where possible need to occur prior to noon e.g. recycling could happen straight after recess instead of after lunch

VARIATIONS TO HOT WEATHER POLICY

- Successive hot days (at discretion of leadership)
- A high UV rating of 11+ (extreme)
- Significant reduction in expected hot weather



HAT POLICY

Refer to SFC Dress Code Policy: *“Hats must be worn for outdoor activities, including playtimes, all of Term 1 and Term 4 and from 1st September in Term 3”* for students and staff.

No HAT No PLAY

If students do not have a hat for playtimes, they will be directed to play under shaded areas:

- Reception to year 2 – under the COLA (covered outdoor learning area) between Callistemon and Daintree
- Year 3-4 – under the Homestead pergola
- Year 5-7 – under the Ghost Gums C

SUNSCREEN

- The school supplies SPF 30 or higher broad spectrum, water resistant sunscreen for staff and students’ use. Students may also provide their own SPF 30 or higher broad spectrum, water resistant sunscreen.
- Sunscreen is applied at least 20 minutes before going outdoors and reapplied every two hours if remaining outdoors.
- Staff are to remind students to apply sunscreen regularly.
- Families with children who have naturally very dark skin are encouraged to discuss their vitamin D requirements with their GP or pediatrician.

WET WEATHER - communicated via 3 bells before play, music during play and phone pager

- Wet weather policy will be in place when rain occurs
- Students will be supervised inside classrooms
- If students wish to go the canteen they need to go directly along the pathway and return directly to their classroom
- Teachers need to buddy where possible with neighbouring class teacher. Duty of care means that students must be in ‘line of sight’ during these times
- Teachers may take their class out for play for 20 minutes during lesson time

VARIATIONS TO THE WET WEATHER POLICY

- Extreme cold weather (at discretion of leadership)
- Flooding/ hail

When there are exceptional circumstances, leadership may alter the above information and this will be communicated via the School Star app. or phoning classes.

All teaching spaces at Settlers are collaborative teaching spaces. It is expected that teachers release one another on extreme weather days by ensuring doors between classes are opened.

