



Extreme Weather Policy

Rational

Teaching staff have a responsibility to ensure the safety and well-being of students during school activities or when they are present for the purpose of a school activity. This duty involves safeguarding students not only from known dangers but also from potential harm that could be anticipated and prevented through precautionary measures.

Aim

The aim of the Beechboro Primary School Extreme Weather Policy is to provide guidelines for ensuring appropriate arrangements are in place for students during extreme weather conditions at playtime.

Implementation

This policy is for implementation throughout the year, with particular emphasis on wet weather and hot weather conditions.

If the temperature reaches 37°C or higher, or the weather is stormy, wet (including thunderstorms and hail) or extremely windy weather, the Principal or Deputy Principal will exercise their judgement to implement the following procedures.

Recess and Lunch

- If playtime needs to be cancelled due to extreme heat (37°C or higher, confirmed by dialling 1196 or checking the Bureau of Meteorology website) or inclement weather, an announcement will be made over the PA system.
- There is **no outside play** during this time. Students will remain in classrooms during play time

Classroom Management

- On very hot days, students should be reminded and encouraged by teachers to increase their fluid intake throughout the day
- All food and drink should be kept in classrooms during hot weather
- When PE lessons are scheduled, outside activities will be substituted with indoor activities. Changes in weather during the day may result in variations to this procedure

Duties and Release Time for Staff

- All classroom teachers will be provided with a buddy so that each teacher can be released for 10 minutes at recess and 20 minutes at lunch time
- Specialist Teachers and Admin staff will be used as additional buddy support for classes
- The library will not be open





School Assemblies

- The Principal and/or Deputy Principal will exercise their judgement whether or not a scheduled assembly will be cancelled or postponed
- In the event of an Assembly being cancelled/postponed, parents will be notified as soon as possible via SMS

Do we remain open?

Yes. Schools do not close at a certain temperature threshold during days of extreme heat. A decision to close any school is made by the Deputy director General Schools in consultation with the Director of Education.

If the principal holds concern regarding the health and safety of staff and students, they should contact their Director of Education, to consider appropriate actions.

