

## Kensington Primary School

### Extreme Weather Policy

#### Rationale

Extreme weather can present as a hazard to students' and staff members' health and wellbeing. This policy has taken into account the Department's Duty of Care policy and the Cancer Council WA Sun Smart Policy. It also takes into account the value associated with students having the opportunity to play.

#### Purpose

1. To provide a safe and healthy school environment that takes into consideration the needs of all students, staff and visitors.
2. To provide guidelines and processes to accommodate extreme weather conditions

#### Definition

At Kensington Primary School, Extreme Weather is defined as one or more of the following

1. Severe Wet Weather – thunder/lightning, storm, heavy rain, strong winds
2. Extreme Hot Weather – temperature is above 37 degrees Celsius and relative humidity is over 30% according to the Bureau of Meteorology

#### General Guidelines

The decision to call Extreme Weather will be based upon current weather conditions and information from the Bureau of Meteorology. The decision will be set and monitored and, if weather conditions change, the decision will be updated and staff informed.

#### Wet Weather

Not all wet weather is considered extreme. If it is sprinkling and/or there is no announcement over the PA, then the normal duty roster is in place, and the following applies:

- Students may play in the rain during break times if they are wearing a raincoat, poncho or wet weather gear. **NO** umbrellas are to be used by students in the playground. If used to come to/from school, they must remain outside classrooms during the school day.
- Students can play in the senior block alcove, undercover area or library if they do not have wet weather clothing.
- The library will be opened by a member of the admin team if wet during 1<sup>st</sup> break or on a day when it is not normally open at 2<sup>nd</sup> break.
- Staff are expected to either have a raincoat or umbrella and cover their allocated duty areas as normal, ensuring duty of care is maintained.
- Sports Equipment allowed in covered areas will be reduced and **no** large balls or skipping ropes allowed.

- Staff taking Physical Education and sport classes are to make appropriate decisions in regards to the type and location of activities, including utilising the undercover area and/or classroom spaces.

### Hot Weather

- Students and staff must follow the Sun Smart guidelines wearing an approved hat when outdoors (i.e., no caps).
- On days of impending hot weather (above 35 degrees Celsius), students are advised to utilise the shaded areas of the playground and to drink water on a regular basis. They are also encouraged to use the provided SPF 30 sunscreen.
- Staff taking Physical Education and sport classes are to make appropriate decisions in regards to the type and location of activities on days of very hot or extreme hot weather.

### Extreme Weather

When **Extreme Weather** is called classes combine with their partner class and teachers rotate to ensure each member of staff has a break. Allow the students to engage in quiet activities or share a G rated video. Staff ensure students are supervised at all times and provide each other with a break.

**Suspension of Extreme Weather can only occur if notified by a member of the Administration Team**, but normally will be maintained for the entirety of a break once called.

#### Partner Classes

Onsite Kindy	PP2
PP1	PP3
Rm 1	Rm 2
Rm 3	Rm 4
Rm 5	Rm 6
Rm 8	Rm 9
Rm 10	Specialist Staff to release classroom teacher
S1	S2
S3	S4