

# INCLEMENT WEATHER

## POLICY

### Rationale:

- Schools have a duty of care to staff and students at all times. This duty of care includes protection against inclement weather during times when students would normally be outside.

### Aims:

- To ensure the wellbeing of students and staff during times of inclement weather by consistently implementing a planned management strategy that will cater for all circumstances.

### Implementation:

- As part of the usual yard duty timetable process, an inclement weather timetable will be activated by the duty teacher when conditions outside are considered to be unsuitable for students and staff.
- Inclement weather is generally defined as extreme heat, rain, lightning, or any other condition that is considered by the duty teacher to be unsuitable.
- Where inclement weather is obvious prior to children being dismissed for a recess or lunch break, an announcement will be made by the Principal or teacher responsible for the upcoming duty advising class teachers to follow the inclement weather time-table until further notice.
- In such cases, teachers will supervise a number of grades (as previously agreed to by the teachers concerned), for half the recess or lunch break, then swap over.
- Teachers, other than classroom teachers, will similarly share supervision.
- All children will be confined to classrooms unless permission has been granted by a teacher to leave temporarily, e.g. toilet break.
- Children will be expected to walk indoors at all times and undertake appropriate indoor games and activities.
- In the case of inclement weather during a recess break, a yard duty teacher will either:
  - a) call for the sounding of the 'weather bell'. This is the signal for all children to return to their classrooms. This will occur when the weather is severe or the rainfall unlikely to diminish in the short term.
  - b) Have all children seek shelter in the stadium should the rainfall appear to be for a short period only.
- All staff and students are required to wear broad-brimmed hats from the start of the school year until the end of April and from September until the end of the school year, 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 inclement weather.

### Evaluation:

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

This policy was last ratified by School Council in....

**June 2020**



*Cavendish Primary School is committed to Child Safety – We have a zero tolerance for child abuse.*