



Wembley Downs Primary School

SEVERE WEATHER POLICY AND PROCEDURES

The following procedures have been written to ensure our students' duty of care during periods of severe weather (**heavy, continuous rain, storms, extreme heat, and smoke hazard**). This policy also considers the wellbeing and health of staff catering for reasonable breaks in supervision to ensure overall we have an orderly environment where there is respect, responsibility and care.



This Policy comes into effect if there is severe weather before or during recess and lunchtimes.

A member of the Leadership Team will advise all staff when the policy is in effect via the public address system. The Severe Weather Policy enforcement will be announced by 10.50 am and 1.10 pm. Playground supervision staff should use a common-sense approach when sudden changes to the weather occur and the policy has not been enforced. A Leadership Team member in the administration area will sound the siren at which time all students and staff should report to their classrooms. The Leadership Team will decide when it's deemed suitable for children to return to play.

1. Classroom Teachers

Students remain in their classes under the care of classroom teachers. Teachers may come to arrangements with colleagues to ensure they get adequate breaks from the room; two classes may combine in one room to ensure only one teacher need to supervise and release the other teacher for a break in supervision.

2. Specialist Teachers

Once specialist teachers have had an opportunity to have a break from supervision, they will circulate the rooms during Severe Weather to ensure classroom teachers are given opportunities for a 10-minute break in supervision.

3. Leadership Team

The Leadership Team will circulate the school to ensure all teachers are given an opportunity for a 10-minute break in supervision.

4. Playground Equipment Areas

All playground areas will be closed on Severe Weather days.

5. Changes to Severe Weather

- i If the severe weather improves during recess or lunchtimes classroom teachers can choose to take their class outside to supervise play. Classroom teachers must supervise their students and be mindful of the risks associated with the prevailing conditions and environment. A common-sense approach is the preferred option.
- ii In the event, light rain falls during regular recess and lunchtimes the supervising teacher will blow a whistle and direct students to the verandas. Supervising teachers on the oval are to direct students in a calm orderly manner. The Leadership Team will support the supervising teachers and move to the verandas as well.