



Weather Policy Inclusive of Sun Smart, Hot, Wet or Windy Weather

Sun Smart Policy

A safe and secure environment for all is a high priority at Echunga Primary School.

The purpose of the policy is to ensure that all members of our school are protected from skin damage caused by the harmful ultraviolet rays of the sun. The following applies from the beginning of September to the end of April.

Students will

- Wear a broad brimmed hat, legionnaire hat or bucket hat whenever they are involved in outdoor activities
- Sit in designated shaded areas if they do not have a hat. "No hat, no play"
- Be encouraged to regularly apply an appropriate sunscreen during prolonged periods of outdoor activity
- Wear school uniform to ensure that skin is covered and on days where uniform is not required, wear appropriate clothing to cover shoulders/neck.

Parents / caregivers may be contacted if hats are not brought to school.

A safe and secure environment for all is a high priority at Echunga Primary School. Australia has the highest incidence of skin cancer in the world. Primary schools can help reduce this by encouraging all members of the school community to take effective skin-protection measures, particularly when UV Alert is 3 or above.

During Terms 2 and 3, UV levels are monitored via the BOM website and staff will advise students regarding hats accordingly.

More information can be found at www.sunsmart.com.au

Hot or Wet Weather Policy

In the event of times when extremely hot or wet weather makes it unpleasant or unsafe for children and staff to go outside the following procedures will apply.

How is the policy activated?

1. If temperature is **36 degrees or more** (Leadership to check BOM website and communicate this to classroom teachers), the Hot Weather Policy will apply. Students will remain in class.

In times of **Wet Weather**, the bell will ring 1 buzz/pause/1 buzz for children to either remain in class at the beginning of a break, or return to class during a break. (The duty



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teachers/leadership staff will make the decision). The bell will ring once for students to go outside should the rain stop.

In the event of rain before school, after 8.30 am, students will move to hall where they will be under the supervision of the yard duty teacher.

In times of high gusts/windy weather staff will be vigilant of students playing under trees, with the possibility of creating out of bound areas to avoid the risk of falling branches.

All class and specialist teachers report to class areas for duty when hot and wet weather policies are activated. Staff then negotiate with others for release time in an equitable manner. Leadership staff and specialist teachers will support classroom to ensure all staff have a break.

Endorsed May 2024