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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.

GENERAL STATEMENT:

The well being of students and staff during times of inclement weather will be ensured by consistently implementing a planned management strategy that will cater for all circumstances.

IMPLEMENTATION GUIDELINES:

- As part of the usual yard duty timetable process, an inclement weather timetable will be activated by the Principal, or nominee, when conditions outside are considered to be unsuitable for students and staff.
- Once a PCO has instigated an Inclement Weather day, all teachers are expected to be in their classrooms at 8.45am.
- Inclement weather is generally defined as extreme heat, rain, lightning, or any other condition that is considered by the Principal or nominee 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 nominee 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 teachers concerned], for half the recess or lunch break, then swap over.
- Teachers, other than classroom teachers, will similarly share the supervision.
- All children will be confined to classrooms unless permission has been granted by a teacher to leave temporarily, e.g. toilet break.
- Students 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 inform the Principal or nominee of the possible need to activate the inclement weather timetable.
- The Principal or nominee will assess the situation and make the decision to call the students inside or alternatively, to seek adequate shelter, in which case the yard duty teachers will continue to supervise outside.
- All staff and students are required to wear sun smart hats during Terms 1 and 4 consistent with the school's sun smart 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 cycle

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Draft	4
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