



**Our Lady of Hope School**

**Greenwith**

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**POLICY  
DOCUMENT**

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**EXTREME WEATHER**

# OUR LADY OF HOPE SCHOOL EXTREME WEATHER POLICY

The purpose of this policy is to ensure that adequate procedures are in place during those times when the weather is deemed to be extreme and have the potential to pose a risk to wellbeing of students, staff and other members of the community.

If the temperature is 37 degrees or more (as displayed by the Bureau of Meteorology), or when the weather is wet or extremely winding and stormy, the following procedures apply:

## OUTDOOR ACTIVITIES

- Outdoor activities, such as Physical Education lessons, daily fitness, excursions or other outdoor lessons, will be held indoors or re-scheduled to a time when the weather is more suitable.

## RECESS AND LUNCH

- Students will remain in classrooms during play time.
- At the beginning of both recess and lunch the administration staff will make a notification of extreme weather by ringing **three bells immediately after the normal play bell**, if the current temperature is 37 degrees or above (**checking the Bureau of Meteorology website**), or if the weather is wet and/or extremely windy and stormy.
- There is absolutely no outside play during this time. If children are given permission by their teacher to move from their classroom to another area they are to stay under shelter and to walk quickly between areas – **no running!**

## CLASSROOM MANAGEMENT

- On very hot days students should be reminded and encouraged by teachers to increase their fluid intake throughout the day.
- All food and drink should be kept in the classrooms during hot weather.

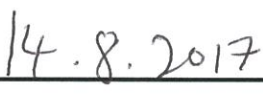
## YARD DUTIES AND RELEASE TIME FOR STAFF


- Before and after school duties remain as per the regular yard duty roster.
- All classroom teachers will be provided with a buddy so that each teacher can be released for 10 minutes at recess time and 15 minutes at lunch time.
- Support teachers and leadership staff will be used as buddy support for classes that are not in close proximity to another class.
- Staff members that are required to cover a full duty at recess will work with their teaching partner to ensure they receive a sufficient break at lunch and vice versa. In the event a staff member does not receive a sufficient break (minimum 20 minutes combined break) they are to inform leadership so arrangements can be made to provide the staff member with a break.
- The resource centre and rethink will not be open.
- Students will be required to attend rethink the next day it is open.
- Restricted Play will remain open.

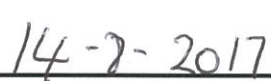
## HEAT WAVE OR EXTREME WEATHER EVENT

- Where the Bureau of Meteorology forecasts a heat wave ( the Bureau's definition of a heat wave for Adelaide is 5 or more consecutive days of temperatures over 35 degrees Celsius, or 3 or more consecutive days of temperatures over 40 degrees Celsius), then school leadership will activate the following procedure for dealing with the heat wave.
  - In the case of a heat wave, as defined by the Bureau of Meteorology, parents/caregivers will be advised that due to the continuous extremely hot weather, they can choose to pick their children up from school at 1.00pm and take them home, if they want to. Parents/caregivers will be advised that this is a choice for them and they can therefore also choose to leave their children at school until normal finishing time, as the school will remain open and classes will continue to function in the afternoons.
  - When this heat wave policy is activated, it will remain in place until the heat wave ceases.
  - In the event that there is a high likelihood of rolling power outages, which may impact on the school's ability to keep the learning spaces at a comfortable temperature, the school may invite parents to collect their children from school or keep their children away from school for the day.
  - In the event of an extreme weather event such as a severe thunder storm or statewide blackout, the school may encourage parents to collect their children early or keep them home. The School may also cancel any whole events planned when the weather is forecast to be extreme and where necessary change after-school duty arrangements.
  - In the event of any of the above extreme weather events, the school will endeavor to communicate in a timely manner with parents via the most appropriate communication method. There may times during power outages when this may not be possible.

  
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**Chairperson**

  
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**Date**

  
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**Principal**

  
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**Date**