EXTREME WEATHER ARRANGEMENTS POLICY AND PROCEDURES

APPROVAL OF EXTREME WEATHER ARRANGEMENTS POLICY AND PROCEDURES

Principal

College Board Chair

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VISION STATEMENT .................................................................................................................................................. 4
OUR MISSION .......................................................................................................................................................... 4
RATIONALE .......................................................................................................................................................... 4
DEFINITIONS .......................................................................................................................................................... 4
RESPONSIBILITIES AND PROCEDURES .............................................................................................................. 5
Temperatures 35°C or above .................................................................................................................................. 5
Sporting carnivals (Inter School) .......................................................................................................................... 5
Sporting (Intra School – St Francis de Sales College) ............................................................................................ 5
Excursions ............................................................................................................................................................ 5
Wet weather .......................................................................................................................................................... 5
TRAINING .............................................................................................................................................................. 6
MONITOR AND REVIEW ................................................................................................................................... 6
APPENDIX A: YARD DUTY AREAS AND DESCRIPTORS ................................................................................. 7
VISION STATEMENT

We nurture in our endeavours God’s gifts of holy friendship, a passion for learning and celebration of personal excellence.

OUR MISSION

St Francis de Sales College is a learning community that works together to build an environment in which faith is nurtured in a Catholic Christian tradition. It does this by recognising individuals’ skills and talents while appreciating and accepting their uniqueness.

The College is committed to promoting community and personal fulfilment through life enhancing relationships.

St Francis de Sales, as patron, symbolised the high hopes that are held for every St Francis de Sales student, so that, inspired and guided by his example, each child may:

- promote a culture of life through courage in responding to the challenges that life brings
- foster the engagement of faith and reason
- develop a love of learning and independent thinking
- value and respect individuals, irrespective of position, wealth, racial origin or religious beliefs
- become a socially responsible contributor in the community and to society
- acquire virtue and wisdom and respond generously to others throughout life.

RATIONALE

The objectives of this policy and procedure is to ensure the safety of its employees, students and the St Francis de Sales College community during potential exposure to extreme weather at recess and lunch time.

DEFINITIONS

Extreme Weather: Temperatures 35°C or above or raining – as provided by the Bureau of Meteorology.
RESPONSIBILITIES AND PROCEDURES

Temperatures 35°C or above

All rooms throughout the College are air-conditioned. Parents are provided with the option of taking their children home throughout the day in extreme temperatures. On days of very hot weather, consideration is given to opening some classrooms at recess or lunchtimes by the yard duty teacher or Homeroom teacher for student comfort. If the maximum forecast temperature is 35°C or above, there is to be no outdoor activities after recess. Students in Physical Education classes during warm temperatures or high UV ratings are required to wear hats and have adequate water supplies. The College also follows its Bushfire Policy in relation to hot weather conditions. In the event of a bushfire, the Principal will cancel on site outdoor activities for students.

Sporting carnivals (Inter School)

For athletics or cross country carnivals, the carnivals will not operate if the forecasted temperature (for the venue) is 35°C or above. For outdoor swimming carnivals, the carnival will not operate if the forecasted temperature (for the venue) is 35°C or above or 22°C or below.

Sporting (Intra School – St Francis de Sales College)

For Intra Sporting Carnivals, the College operates in accordance with the DECD guidelines or by the organising body guidelines.

Excursions

Excursions generally occur by bus and these are mostly air-conditioned. Some local excursions involve students walking to the destination. If the forecasted temperature is 35°C or above, a review of the excursion will occur. The Bushfire Policy and Camps and Excursions Policy will also apply as to the cancellation of excursions.

Wet weather

Wet weather arrangements will be signalled by the ringing of extra bells at the start of the break. Usually this is the decision of the Deputy Principal.

Note that on occasions when the ovals are very muddy/wet, these arrangements may be implemented even if it is not actually raining during the recess/lunchtime.

Designated yard duty areas for wet weather arrangements are detailed in the Staff Handbook and on Relief Yard Duty Slips. Please refer to the Staff Handbook sections on yard duties and yard duty descriptors for further information.

Executive staff, if not already scheduled, will move around the areas.

TRAINING

All employees will be briefed/trained in the requirements of this policy procedure during induction and when implemented or amended.

MONITOR AND REVIEW

This document will be reviewed within three years of the date of issue. Changes in legislation or Catholic Church Policy may necessitate earlier review and subsequent amendment or re-issue.