



SWALLOWCLIFFE SCHOOL

Hot Weather Policy

Rationale:

- As a Staff we are committed to providing a safe learning environment for all children

Building Design:

Swallowcliffe buildings are of solid construction. Each individual space is air-conditioned by split system air conditioners.

A hard cover pergola extends along the inside of the school, shaded protection over the sandpits and a large undercover pergola was erected to provide additional shaded protection from the sun during outdoor learning activities and play times.

DECD Early Dismissal Guidelines:

- Students may be dismissed at 12.30 p.m. on days when the forecast maximum is 37°C or higher, or up to one hour before normal dismissal time when the estimated maximum temperature is to be at least 36°C. Arrangements must comply with a school policy determined in consultation with the school council, endorsed by the appropriate District Director and conveyed, in writing, to parents at least once annually. The policy must take into account factors which include location, building design and whether or not the school is equipped with air conditioning.
- Staff are expected to remain on duty on days of early dismissal. The principal will be expected to provide an appropriate standard of care until normal dismissal time for students whose parents are unable to make alternative arrangements.

Swallowcliffe Hot Weather Policy

When the forecast temperature is 36 degrees or above on any single day the local temperature will be checked on the Australian Bureau of Meteorology at 10.30 and again at 12.30 (before each play time) and if recorded 36 degrees or above the following procedures will be actioned:

- Students will go out for recess play only (if temperature is under 36 degrees) in restricted play shaded areas ie sandpit and under the veranda/COLA. The oval will be closed at all times.
- Students will remain indoors during other play periods.
- Teachers will pair up and provide release for each other to ensure all staff have an adequate break.
- Office staff will track the weather via a mobile weather app and use the school bell to inform teachers.
- Booked excursions for the day will need to seek direct approval from the School Principal before proceeding with the excursion.

Our Mission: To empower students to recognise and optimise their full learning potential.





Swallowcliffe P-6

Be Safe, Be Kind, Work Hard

- Physical and sporting activities will be suspended for the day. They may be relocated to the gym if possible.
- Teachers will switch off lights where possible and draw curtains to keep class areas as cool as possible.
- Technology equipment will be turned off where possible.
- Students will be encouraged to have regular drink breaks.
- Students may use spray bottles under supervision of the teacher.
- The learning program will be maintained, with modified learning program implemented after lunchtime.
- Early dismissal will not be endorsed.
- Parents/Carers who wish to 'pick up' their children early from the School will need to 'sign out' their child as per early departure procedures.
- Parents are encouraged to dress children in clothing that minimises heat and are encouraged to pack food in insulated containers with a freezer block.

This policy has been endorsed by the Governing Council.

This policy will be reviewed and updated as required ie due to new information.

2017

Changes made and updated 2023

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Government of South Australia
Department for Education

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