



ELLEN STIRLING PRIMARY SCHOOL



Hot Weather Policy

The following policy and procedures provide a safe environment for students and staff members by minimising the risks of overexposure to UV and heat illness in summer. The administration will announce the implementation of the provisions within this policy in response to the temperature in the playground.

RATIONALE

The objective of this policy is to prevent injury from heat illness by assisting teachers, students and parents to recognize and manage potentially dangerous heat situations.

PURPOSE

The purpose of this policy is to alleviate high temperature stress in both students and staff members.

PROCESSES

Summer

- Use of SPF 50+ broad spectrum, water resistant sunscreen is promoted.
- All students are required to bring their own clearly labeled drink bottle to Physical Education lessons.
- Cool water is available from fountains and flexible drink breaks are provided.

Temperature 36°C – 40°C

- Students' lunches are placed in the wet areas or classrooms.
- Physical education warm-up activities are limited in duration and intensity.
- Physical education rest breaks and opportunities to seek shade and re-hydrate are increased.
- The duration of physical education activity is modified to being low impact and activities are held at an alternative shaded venue (for example, undercover area).
- Individual teachers may choose to open their classes for student eating and recreational activities – teachers who choose this option have duty of care for these students and cannot interrupt playground duty rosters which are already in place.

Temperature >40°C

- Outdoor activity is held at an alternative venue, for example the classroom.
- Physical education lessons are held in air conditioned buildings.
- **Recess and Lunch time**
 - Class teachers, specialist teachers and support staff to work in teams to supervise students in the classrooms for eating and indoor recreational activities. Transportable classrooms will need to team up in one classroom to allow team supervision. Students, under the direction of the supervising staff may use the toilets and access the canteen. Overall duty of care remains with the teaching staff.
 - Teachers work together to allow other staff members time for eating and restroom breaks.
 - Teachers may decide to supervise specific class groups to walk to areas of shade to stretch their legs and get some fresh air for short periods of time.
 - Administration staff to supervise toilet areas and canteen area during these times.