Hot Weather Policy May 2017

Summary

This information applies to all Ethnic Schools of South Australia.

Table 1: Document Details

Policy Number	ES45	
	Risk Management	
Related Policies	Excursion and Incursion	
	SunSmart Policy	
Version	1	
Created by	Policy Officer: Kate Quane	
Reviewed by	Executive Officer: Darryl Buchanan	
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Executive	LOAGA EXCOUNTE COMMITTEE	
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Table 2: Revision Record

Date	Version	Revision Description
November 2016	1	New policy developed

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Introduction

Hungarian Community School, Adelaide Inc. is located at Brighton Secondary School (305 Brighton Road, North Brighton) and has a duty of care to protect students against hot weather, inside and outside the classrooms. Working and learning in hot conditions can result in a number of adverse health effects. To avoid increase risk of injuries, illness, and the aggravation of existing medical conditions, the Hungarian Community School, Adelaide Inc. has developed a Hot Weather Policy.

Hungarian Community School, Adelaide Inc. has developed a separate SunSmart Policy which encourages students to play in shaded areas, to wear appropriate sun protection clothing and broad-brimmed hats, and apply sunscreen.

Policy

Hungarian Community School, Adelaide Inc. has established the following to ensure the well-being of students and staff during hot weather:

- Teachers to encourage students to bring water bottles into the classroom for hydration throughout the day all year round
- When the UV index is 3 or higher, students are encouraged to play in shaded areas
- When the UV index is 3 or higher, students are required to wear a hat outdoors, to wear sun protective clothing and apply sunscreen
- When the forecast temperature is 36°C or higher, no outdoor learning activities will occur
- When the forecast temperature is 36°C or higher, break times will be held indoors or in a shaded area.
- If the temperature exceeds 40°C, parents will be contacted by the school to seek permission for students to be dismissed or picked up from school. Any student who cannot be dismissed or picked up will remain at school in the coolest possible room until the end of the school day.
- A modification to the school's learning program may be implemented in extreme heat.
- Parents may pick up their child/children at any time if they believe their child is suffering from the heat.

Responsibilities:

It is the responsibility of the school Principal to:

- Check the UV index and forecast temperature on the Bureau of Meteorology website (http://www.bom.gov.au/) and decide the best plan for the day
- Inform staff of policy and procedures relating to hot weather and changes made to any scheduled learning activities that may be impacted by hot weather
- Notify parents if there is to be a change in the learning program (cancellation of excursions, outdoor activities, modifications to break-times, or permission to dismiss students).

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Excursions

Excursions offer students an alternatively learning experience. Hungarian Community School, Adelaide Inc. has a dedicated Excursions and Incursions policy. In the event that a planned excursion occurs on a day where the forecast temperature is high, the following will be considered before postponing the excursion:

- The age of the students participating in the excursion
- The venue
- The time of day of the excursion
- The length of the excursion
- Type of physical activity required, such as walking to and from school to the venue

If the temperature for forthcoming excursions to an outdoor venue is 38°C or higher the excursion will be postponed until the temperature is below 38°C. Hungarian Community School, Adelaide Inc. may postpone the excursion if the temperature is lower than 38°C and where local conditions are more sever and poses an increased risk for student participants.

In the event of a cancelled excursion, Hungarian Community School, Adelaide Inc. will continue with timetabled lessons or provide an alternative learning program.

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