



Woodford Road, Elizabeth North 5114
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Elizabeth North Early Learning Centre

Policy Statement Hot Weather

Introduction

Elizabeth North Preschool is equipped with both refrigerated air conditioning in the Rainbow Room and Support Room and evaporative air conditioning throughout the preschool. During periods of extreme heat, the preschool will follow the Skin Protection Policy and the school's Inclement Weather Policy. This will ensure children are protected from the dangers of extreme heat such as heat fatigue, dehydration and sun burn. Therefore, when extreme heat is forecasted (35°C or higher), educators will take specific precautions to ensure both children and educators' health and safety whilst at preschool.

Procedure

When the forecast for Elizabeth is 35°C or higher, educators will ensure children have access to sunscreen before play outside in the morning and all children will reapply sunscreen after before snack before outside play time. Educators will also remind children to stay hydrated throughout the day and ensure that cups are always available for children to access the Pura Tap to refill their drink bottles. Children will also be encouraged to engage in relaxation after lunch to provide their body rest after play.

Children will be encouraged to play in the shade with activities set up in shaded areas. The bikes and obstacle course will be monitored during the morning and if they are deemed too hot, they will be put away in the shed as these activities are directly in the sun and do not provide shade to children during the day. Both children and educators will be reminded to follow the Skin Protection Policy and encourage each other to wear a sun safe hat such as a wide-brimmed hat. These are available from the school's front office to purchase. Children's clothing that does not cover their shoulders are not sun safe and children will be asked to change into something more sun safe such as a t-shirt or they will be asked to play in the shade.

Children will have the option to play inside or outside in the shade during the morning play time and educators at all times will be mindful of the weather conditions that day. In cases where the outside temperature is forecast 35° or above, educators will decide if it is too hot for any outside play after snack time and ensure children play inside only. If educators determine outside play is safe for children in extreme weather, children will be allowed to play outside in the shade up until lunch time, whilst the weather conditions will be monitored. Children will not however, be allowed to play outside after lunch on days forecast 35°C or above due to the heat in the afternoon.

In order to ensure children and educators are safe from extreme heat, educators will communicate with each other about the weather conditions and decide what action should be taken on the day. Whilst children have the freedom to choose which environment (outside or inside) they will play in, on extreme weather days, it will ultimately be at the educators discretion, in accordance with the Skin Protection Policy and the schools Inclement Weather Policy.

Governing Council Member's Signature _____

Principal's Signature _____

Deputy Principal's Signature _____

Date Written: 27th October 2016

Next Review Due: October 2018

Sources: Elizabeth North Preschool Skin Protection Policy
Elizabeth North Primary School Inclement Weather Policy

National Quality Standard 2

Element 2.1.2 'Each child's comfort is provided for and there are appropriate opportunities to meet each child's need for sleep, rest and relaxation.'

Element 2.3.2 'Every reasonable precaution is taken to protect children from harm and any hazard likely to cause injury.'