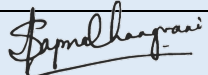




ADVERSE WEATHER POLICY

Review date	June 2025
Circulation	
Approval Signature	Ms Sapna Changrani (Head of School)
Signature	

This policy will be reviewed annually unless an incident; new legislation or guidance suggests the need for an interim review



Goal:

Teachers /staffs parents / guardians /care givers and Students shall be aware of the Hot and Severe weather policy.

Dubai Weather

Dubai has a hot desert climate. Dubai has two distinct seasons – winter and summer. Summer in Dubai begins around the last week of April and ends around the first week of October

During summer months it is certain that temperatures will remain above 35 degrees centigrade during the school days.

In the UAE, its mostly rains during the winter season.

During the summer season, a low pressure area develops over Dubai forcing strong north-westerly winds to blow from Saudi Arabia. These winds, also known as Shamal (north) in Arabic, become gusty and unpredictable on reaching Dubai. Shamal boosts up the desert sand and reduce visibility and the dust storm sandstorms may last for several days

1.Purpose:

To provide the guidelines for outdoor activities and to ensure the health and safety of Dubai Scholars Private School students and staff during hot and severe weather like sandstorm, rain etc.

2.Role of The Principal:

As the instructional leader, the principal has a continuing role in policy implementation. The principal should:

- 2.1 Communicate the Hot and Severe Weather Policy to teachers, parents/guardians, and students.
- 2.2 Organize in-service training for all school staff and students as part of the policy implementation.
- 2.3 Ensure the staff and students complies with Hot and Severe Weather Policy.

3. Role of Teachers, teaching assistants and staff

- 3.1 Remind students to drink plenty of water during outdoor activities and always wear their hats
- 3.2 Remind students to take regular rest periods while playing outside.
- 3.3 Observe closely for symptoms of heat-related illness and provide the immediate first aid and/or take the children to the school clinic.
- 3.4 Do not allow children to play outdoors during severe weather.
- 3.5 Observe closely asthmatic children when the weather conditions are dusty.



4. Role of the Parents/Guardians/Care giver:

- 4.1 Apply sunscreen to their children before coming to school and provide one sunscreen suitable for the age group.
- 4.2 Teach them to apply sunscreen 30 minutes before stepping out in the sun and keep on applying every 2 hours till they are outdoors.
- 4.3 Remind their children to wear their hat during outdoor activities.
- 4.4 Remind their children to regularly drink water.
- 4.5 Provide enough water for the day.

5.Role of The Student:

The student should:

- 5.1. Be familiar with the heat and severe weather policy of the school.
- 5.2. Apply sunscreen before coming to school.
- 5.3. Wear their hats and drink water regularly during outdoors activities.
- 5.4. Inform the person on duty if experiencing any symptoms of heat-related illness or breathing difficulty.
- 5.5. Take regular rest periods while playing outdoor.

6.Role of the Physical Education/Sports Department:

- 6.1. Be familiar with the heat and severe weather policy of the school.
- 6.2. Aware of the temperature and humidity on the outdoor every day.
- 6.3. Use the HI (appendix A) to calculate and report to the Head of P.E/Sports Section, who would then allow or not allow the outdoor activity/break.
- 6.4. Remind students to drink plenty of water during outdoor activities and always wear their hats and apply sun screen every 2 hourly once outdoor.
- 6.5. Remind students to take regular rest periods while playing outside.
- 6.6. Observe closely for symptoms of heat-related illness and provide the immediate first aid and/or take the children to the school clinic.
- 6.7. Do not allow children to play outdoors during a sandstorm or other forms of severe weather.
- 6.8. Observe closely asthmatic children when the weather conditions are dusty.
- 6.9. To be aware of the chronic illness list of students.



7. Role of The Medical Team:

It is the medical team's role to support the classroom teacher and principal in instructing teachers and students. The medical team should:

- 7.1. Provide educational and policy material to all the school staff in line with the hot and severe weather policy.
- 7.2. They should train the staff to identify signs and symptoms of heat exhaustion, breathing difficulties etc.
- 7.3. They should coordinate with parents and update them regularly about student's health while in school
- 7.4. They should follow up with the parents for the same.

8. Definitions/abbreviations:

8.1. Sandstorm:

Sand and dust storms usually occur when strong winds lift large amounts of sand and dust from bare, dry soils into the atmosphere, thus reducing visibility.

8.2. Relative Humidity:

The percent of moisture in the air.

8.3. Temperature:

The temperature of the air in degrees Celsius.

8.4. Heat Index - HI:

Heat Index is an index that combines air temperature and relative humidity that determines the human - perceived equivalent temperature – how hot it feels to the person (also known as “feels like temperature”).

8.5. Severe weather:

Severe weather is any dangerous meteorological phenomenon with the potential to cause damage, serious social disruption, or loss of human life. Severe weather can include strong winds, sandstorms, heavy rain, floods, hailstorms, downburst, wildfire, cyclones among others.

9.Implementation

9.1 Extreme temperatures

- 9.1.a. Students must not undertake any outdoor activities during lessons, with the exception of PE where a risk assessment must be in place for these months.



9.1.b. Students are not to play physical activities or sports outside during break and lunch times. Staff on duty must stop and prevent students from playing sports outside and encourage them to stay indoors as much as possible.

9.1.c. Students are allowed to eat their lunch outside but should be sat down and not exerting themselves in any way. Students must also be sat in a shaded area.

9.1.d. Students are allowed to wear sunglasses and a hat during break and lunchtimes if they wish to sit outside.

9.1.e. Students and staff must be encouraged to drink plenty of water and rehydrate themselves regularly.

9.1.f. Students are encouraged to wear sunscreen during the day. Parents should be encouraged on this via the Parent Portal.

9.2 Outdoor events

Outdoor events throughout the year

Throughout the year, temperatures can be high in Dubai, especially at midday. Therefore, during College events whereby students and staff are outside for an extended period of time (more than 2 hours) the following actions must be taken:

9.2.a. Students and staff must stay in shaded areas as much as possible throughout the event.

9.2.b. Students and staff must be encouraged to drink plenty of water and rehydrate themselves regularly.

9.2.c. Water will be provided throughout the event and water fountains will be replenished regularly by site staff.

9.2.d. Students and staff are encouraged to wear sunglasses and a hat during the event

9.2.e. Students must wear sunscreen throughout the event. Parents will be encouraged on this via the Parent Portal. Sunscreen will be available at the event.

9.3 Storm conditions

9.3.a. During mild storm conditions / light rainfall:

- Students will be allowed to walk outside to get to their lessons.
- Students may be asked to remain inside during break and lunch time.

9.3.b. During moderate storm conditions / heavy rainfall:

- SLT will consult weather reports to decide best course of action.



- If weather is predicted to worsen, students and staff may be asked to remain inside until told otherwise.
- Once storm has passed, students may be asked to remain inside for break and lunch times to avoid flooded areas
- Areas of the College which are flooded will be cordoned off to all staff and students –

9.3.c. During severe storm conditions / very heavy and persistent rainfall:

- All staff and students will be asked to remain inside and away from windows.
- If deemed safer to remain inside.
- If deemed safer to officially close the College, staff and students must remain inside until further notice from KHDA.

9.3.d. Poor Air Quality

- If air quality is deemed to be a concern, especially during summer months, the School will follow guidelines published by the MOCCA (Ministry of Climate Change and Environment) and National Emergency Crisis and Disasters Management Authority (NCEMA).
- Following the scales used by the MOCCA (published on their website) if air quality is deemed 'unhealthy' for young adults, SLT will decide whether to keep students inside for break times.

10. Evaluation/Monitoring:

The school needs to continuously train everyone on the policies.

10. Appendixes:

- Appendix A: Heat Index Chart
- Appendix B: Heat Index Guidelines for Outdoor Activities

NOTE: WEATHER RELATED INFORMATION WILL BE COMMUNICATED TO ALL PARENTS VIA COMMUNICATOR AND TO ALL STAFF MEMBERS AND STUDENTS IN SCHOOL VIA EMAIL/MICROSOFT TEAMS.



Appendix A - Heat Index Chart (HI Chart)

Air Temperature °C	21°	24°	26°	27°	28°	29°	30°	31°	32°	33°	34°	35°	36°	37°	38°	39°	40°	41°	42°	43°	44°	45°
Relative Humidity %	Heat Index = Apparent Temperature / What it Feels Like (°Celsius)																					
0%	19	22	25	26	26	27	27	28	29	29	30	31	32	32	33	34	35	36	36	37	38	39
10%	19	23	25	26	26	27	28	29	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39	40	41	42
20%	20	23	25	26	27	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	37	38	39	41	42	44	46	47
30%	20	23	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	35	36	38	39	41	43	45	47	49	52	54
40%	20	24	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	34	35	37	39	41	43	46	48	51	54	57	60	63
45%	20	24	26	27	28	29	30	32	33	35	37	39	41	43	46	49	51	54	58	61	64	68
50%	20	24	26	27	28	30	31	33	34	36	38	41	43	46	49	52	55	58	62	65	69	73
55%	21	24	26	28	29	30	32	34	36	38	40	43	46	49	52	55	59	62	66	70	75	79
60%	21	24	27	28	29	31	33	35	37	40	42	45	48	51	55	59	63	67	71	76	81	
65%	21	24	27	28	30	32	34	36	39	41	44	48	51	55	59	63	67	72	77	82		
70%	21	24	27	29	31	33	35	38	40	44	47	50	54	58	63	67	72	77	82			
75%	21	24	28	29	31	34	36	39	42	46	49	53	58	62	67	72	77	83				
80%	21	25	28	30	32	35	38	41	44	48	52	57	61	66	71	77	83					
85%	21	25	28	30	33	36	39	43	47	51	55	60	65	70	76	82						
90%	22	25	28	31	34	37	41	45	49	54	58	64	69	75	81							
95%	22	25	28	32	35	39	43	47	52	57	62	68	74	80								
100%	22	25	28	33	36	40	44	49	54	60	66	72	78									



Appendix B – Heat Index Guidelines for Outdoor Activities

Heat Index	Action
>31	SAFE
	Establish basic heat safety and planning
	Children may play outdoors.
	Watch signs of children feeling uncomfortable (discomfort and fatigue). Watch out for other severe weather (heavy rain, thunderstorms, high wind, dust storms).
	Remind children to wear their hats, put on sunscreen and drink water.

Heat Index	Action
32-40	CAUTION
	Heighten Awareness and keep a lookout
	Children can play outdoors but should be monitored for signs of heat-related illnesses.
	Increase the number of rest periods and water intake. Remind children to wear hats and sunscreen.
	Reschedule outdoor activities to a cooler time (early morning or evening). Limit heavy physical activities.

Heat Index	Action
41-51	WARNING
	Implement precautions and continue raising awareness
	Extensive outdoor activities should be avoided. Children cannot spend the whole break outside.
	Increase the number of rest periods and water intake. Remind children to wear hats and sunscreen.
	Practice extreme caution for heat-related illnesses.

Heat Index	Action
>52	DANGER
	Implement aggressive protective measures
	NO OUTDOOR ACTIVITIES. Provide indoor areas to play.
	Increase water intake, even while playing indoors.
	Practice extreme caution for heat-related illnesses, even while indoors.

References



1. <https://www.ncema.gov.ae/>
2. https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Climate_of_Dubai
3. <https://www.dessc.sch.ae/userfiles/desscmvc/documents/03-desc/parent-hub/policies-and-procedures/Policies%202021-2022/Adverse%20Weather%20Policy%202021-22.pdf>