

# POLICY

## Wet Weather and Lightning

Responsibility of: Howard Springs School Leadership Team

Effective Date: November 2022

Next Review Date: As Required

Version Number: 3

Target Audience: Howard Springs School Community

### POLICY

The Department of Education is committed to providing safe and healthy working and learning environments for all department and school representative body employees, students, visitors, volunteers, contractors and others in accordance with the Northern Territory *Work Health and Safety (National Uniform Legislation) Act 2011* (the Act) and the Work Health and Safety (National Uniform Legislation) Regulations (the Regulations).

**The Howard Springs Wet Weather and Lightning Policy aims to ensure the safety of staff, families and students.**

### BUSINESS NEED

**This Policy is at the request of staff and parents.**

### RESPONSIBILITIES

**All Staff**

### REVIEW

**As required**

### GUIDELINES/PROCEDURES

#### Aims:

To protect the safety of students, family and staff in the event of wet weather and lightning.

#### Implementation:

**All teachers will send home the attached Wet Weather letter at the beginning of terms 1 and 4.**

### Wet Weather & Lightning Safety

***If there is rain or the threat of imminent rain and / or lightning, an announcement will be made no later than 10 minutes before a scheduled break to state that Wet Weather / Lightning procedures are in place.***

#### ***Lunch and Recess Breaks***

Staff will organise among themselves that one teacher for every two classes remains in the classrooms to supervise children to ensure that all receive adequate breaks. It is expected that personal arrangements can be made so that this duty will be fair in the long run.

Students should only go outside to go to the canteen, toilet if it is safe to do so.

## **After School**

If there is heavy rain and or lightning at home time:

1. All classes remain in their home classroom under the supervision of their class teacher and support staff. **Outside School Hours Care staff will call by each classroom to supervise pupils as they move to the OSH room.**
2. Parents / Carers are to collect their child from the home classroom after advising the class teacher and having their child's name marked off the roll.
3. Students catching buses will be escorted by designated staff from their home classroom to the bus 'muster' classroom. This will be supervised by the Principal / Assistant Principal with help from the bus duty teacher.  
Once in the bus 'muster' classroom they organise in their bus lines and be taken to their bus one line at a time weather permitting. This will be supervised by the Principal or Assistant Principal and bus duty teacher.
4. Bike riders and walkers will be given permission by their class teacher to leave the school, when it is safe to do so. At this time the class teacher will mark their name off the roll.

## **Phones and Public Address equipment**

Telstra has warned against the use of land lines and public address equipment in the event of a severe thunderstorm, staff are instructed not to use these.

## **Alarms**

Should any alarms be triggered during these occasions, it will be considered that the alarm indicates a real danger and be acted upon as usual.



**Howard Springs Primary School**  
 295 Whitewood Road, Howard Springs NT 0835  
 PO Box 171, Howard Springs NT 0835  
 Telephone (08) 8983 0000  
 Preschool (08) 8983 0045  
 Email: howard.springs@education.nt.gov.au  
 ABN: 23 581 355 413

Dear Parents and Carers,

As the weather is changing 'wet weather and lightning' procedures will come into play if there is heavy rain or a storm at home time. All classes will remain in their home classroom under the supervision of their class teacher and support staff. ***Outside School Hours Care staff will call by each classroom to supervise pupils as they move to the OSH room if it is safe to do so.***

***Parents / Carers are to collect their child from their home classroom. (Please advise the class teacher and have your child's name marked off the roll.)***

Students catching buses will be escorted by designated staff from their home classroom to the bus 'muster' classroom (Year 6 Room). This will be supervised by the Principal / Assistant Principal with help from the bus duty teacher.

Once in the bus 'muster' classroom they will be organised into their bus lines and be taken to their bus, one line at a time, safety permitting. This will be supervised by the Principal or Assistant Principal and bus duty teacher.

Bike riders and walkers will be given permission by their class teacher to leave the school, when it is safe to do so. At this time the class teacher will mark their name off the roll.

**As lightning poses a serious safety risk, all staff are directed to not use/answer telephones during a storm.**

Narelle Dahl  
 Principal

It is of the utmost importance that the classroom teacher and school know the daily home time routine of your child. Please fill in the table below and return to the classroom teacher as soon as possible.

- KEY**
- ASC** - After School Care
  - PUZ** - Pick-Up Zone
  - Bus** - Bus (INCLUDE BUS NUMBER)
  - OSHC** - Out of School Hours Care
  - W** - Walk
  - C** - Cycle

Child's Name	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	NOTES