



BLACKFRIARS
PRIORY SCHOOL

INCLEMENT WEATHER POLICY

Date Approved: 2020

Review Date: August 2022

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CONTEXT

As the only school founded by the Dominican Friars in Australia, Blackfriars Priory School remains faithful to the search for Truth (Veritas) as lived and taught over the last 800 years by the Order of Preachers (Dominicans), and exemplified by Saint Dominic, our Founder, and Saint Albert the Great, our Patron.

Saint Dominic's commitment to study continued throughout his life. The pursuit of knowledge was not for its own sake but to better understand God's creation and its use in the works of the Order has continued through the centuries. Today, Dominicans can be found throughout the world.

An early member of the Dominicans was Saint Albert the Great. He became a lecturer, scientist, philosopher and Bishop. After his death he was recognised as a Doctor of the Church. The Doctor Universalis – The Universal Doctor, in recognition of his extraordinary genius and extensive knowledge, for he studied every branch of learning known at his time. His quest for knowledge saw him study everything he could find as it was through learning about creation, that he was able to know more about the creator, God, and then hand on that information to all he taught.

The lifelong commitment of Saint Dominic and Saint Albert to discovering and applying Truth to hand on to others remains at the core of the Blackfriars teaching pedagogy and its community. Blackfriars is built upon the Four Pillars of Dominican Life: Prayer, Study, Community Life and Service.

PURPOSE

The purpose of this policy is to provide guidance on determining what activities should continue to take place when there is inclement weather.

SCOPE

This policy applies to all members of the Blackfriars Priory School community.

POLICY

In determining what activities should continue to take place, the primary consideration should be for the health and safety of participants.

HOT WEATHER

If the temperature is predicted to be 36 degrees Celsius or above following the morning forecast then it will be a "Hot Weather Day" and the School will apply this policy.

There will be an announcement in the morning to confirm if a day is a Hot Weather Day.

WET WEATHER

If it is raining immediately prior to or during recess and/or lunch time, the Deputy Principal (Secondary) will determine if all students are to remain indoors. The Deputy Principal (Secondary) will make an announcement before the relevant break.

HOT WEATHER AND WET WEATHER

1. Students will remain indoors, with supervision, at lunchtime.
2. Primary Students will remain in their classrooms under the supervision of their Class Teacher.
 - The Primary School Library will not be open at lunch time.
3. Secondary Students may remain anywhere indoors that is supervised.
 - Students must not be indoors anywhere that is unsupervised.
4. Teachers on yard duty will remain on duty for twenty minute blocks. However, the yard duty roster for the Secondary School will be adjusted to indoor supervised locations.

Inclement Weather Secondary School Support Locations:

Normal Duty	Hot/Wet Weather Day Duty
Bradford	Upstairs of Masters Building
Oval East	Clear Oval and then open Frassati Hall
Oval West	Clear Oval and then supervise deck, Gym foyer and Frassati Hall
Front 2 Fitzgerald	Library and outside library
Front 1 Masters	Lower level of Masters building
<i>* All other duties remain the same</i>	

Outdoor Lessons and Activities

Physical Education lessons and other outdoor activities taken by Specialist Teachers will need to be taken indoors.

After-school and weekend sport practice, games and other out-of-school activities should be treated in line with the **Sports Association for Adelaide Schools Extreme Weather Guidelines**.

Where excursions have been scheduled, the School will consider the level of risk associated with the planned activity and determine whether the excursion should be cancelled and/or rescheduled. Relevant considerations may include whether the planned activities are to be carried out indoors or outdoors, the planned mode of transport, the length of time the students are to be away from the School etc.

Since students cannot engage in active games on Inclement Weather days, appropriate use of technology devices is permissible in line with the School's **Digital Technologies Policy**.

In the event of a Wet Weather Day, if it stops raining the Deputy Principal (Secondary) may make an announcement that Physical Education lessons, other outdoor activities and after-school sport practice can continue outdoors as planned.

DEFINITIONS

Hot Weather Day: if the temperature is predicted to be 36 degrees Celsius or above following the morning forecast on the day in question.

Wet Weather Day: if it is raining immediately prior to or during recess and/or lunch time and the Deputy Principal (Secondary) makes an announcement to that effect.

RELATED DOCUMENTS/LINKS

1. Department for Education South Australia – www.education.sa.gov.au
2. Sports Association for Adelaide Schools Extreme Weather Guidelines - www.saas.asn.au/wp-content/uploads/2017/07/SAAS-Extreme-Weather-Guideline.pdf

POLICY IMPLEMENTATION

Responsibility for implementation, monitoring and review of the policy is vested at the level of the following levels:

Head of Primary

Deputy Principal (Secondary)

POLICY REVIEW

Frequency: Every 2 years

Next review date: August 2022

APPROVAL AUTHORITY / POLICY OWNER

Blackfriars Priory School