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**Giralang Preschool Unit**

**Extreme weather procedure**

To ensure that every student's safety is adequately accounted for, Giralang Primary School Preschool Unit has developed this procedure. It should be read in conjunction with the Sun Protection policy. Giralang Primary School is an accredited SunSmart and Asthma Friendly school. Therefore there is active support to prevent children from being exposed to UV rays or allergens.

1. The teaching staff will check long range and short range forecasts during the week
2. Teachers will periodically check temperature and weather alerts throughout the day
3. Teachers will monitor ‘real time’ weather conditions during each day whilst supervising the children
4. When deciding to activate a change to the scheduled preschool programming, teachers will use as much information as possible about the type of extreme weather, the expected impact, and the time of impact on the school
5. Decisions will be based upon the notion of ‘what is best for the children’ and prevents any OH&S issues for staff members
6. Teachers will reduce, reschedule or eliminate strenuous activity as required
7. Use of the outdoor play program may be reconsidered on a daily basis for the following reasons :

* Severe straight line winds from thunder storms
* Rain
* Hail
* Electrical storms
* Extreme heat < 30 degrees at 9am and/or 35 degrees at 11 – 3pm
* Extreme winter weather - Snow or icing
* A wind chill factor being present
* Summer wind gusts being present
* Expected high allergen exposure due to wind or rain
* Expected high allergen exposure due to flowering plants, grasses, trees etc

1. The preschool environment will be monitored for any hazards (eg. Ice on footpaths, hail packing gutters, ice on climbing equipment, trees becoming unstable during strong winds)
2. The Principal and Business Manager will be notified of anomalies with the hour of a risk being detected
3. During periods of high risk (actual lightning storm or large hail), teachers will not ‘pack up’ the resources in unprotected areas (outdoor areas)
4. Additional staff may need to be deployed to assist the preschool teachers in settling children and/or waiting after hours for families to arrive due to traffic delays