



Extreme Weather Policy

College Mission

Cabra Dominican College is a Catholic School in the Dominican tradition. It strives to provide an environment that nurtures and develops young people's unique gifts: liberating them in the search for truth and empowering them to create a better world. Cabra Dominican College is committed to providing an environment in which all students feel welcomed, safe and valued.

Context

Extreme weather can present as a hazard to students' and staff members' health and wellbeing. Extreme weather is considered to be conditions too cold, wet, hot, windy or unsafe. i.e. lightning. Cabra aims to provide a safe and healthy school environment that ensures a high level duty of care of all students, staff and visitors including those who may suffer from pre-existing conditions.

Policy Statement

Recognising our moral and legal obligations as a school community to provide a safe environment for all, Cabra Dominican College aims to ensure that all school activities are undertaken with due consideration to weather conditions.

Scope

This policy applies to all students, parents/caregivers and is supported by staff working within or for Cabra Dominican College.

Principles

Cabra Dominican College:

- recognises the importance of providing adequate protection from severe weather conditions for the whole school community, including visitors;
- is committed to providing information to educate the school community of the consequences of exposure to extreme weather;
- will promote the taking of personal responsibility for protection against extreme weather conditions.

Responsibilities

Students will:

- follow directions in extreme weather conditions;
- take responsibility for their personal protection against extreme weather conditions.

Parents/caregivers will:

- ensure their child has adequate and appropriate clothing and provisions to ensure protection from extreme weather;
- support the College's decision regarding protection measures when extreme weather threatens.

Staff will:

- ensure that a risk assessment is completed for all school activities both on and off site;
- maintain awareness of individual responsibility to ensure protection from extreme weather;
- maintain awareness of current and forecast weather conditions and adjust activities appropriately;
- take responsibility for their personal protection against extreme weather conditions;
- encourage and support students to take responsibility for their personal protection against extreme weather conditions;

- increase student and community awareness of the consequences of exposure to extreme weather;
- in planning for activities, where practical, ensure that adequate protection from extreme weather will be available.

Executive Leadership will:

- ensure that adequate protection from extreme weather is available;
- promote awareness of individual responsibility to ensure protection from extreme weather;
- ensure extreme weather protection measures are regularly reinforced and promoted to the whole school community;
- ensure that consideration of weather conditions is included in all risk assessment procedures and protection measures are in place for all school activities both on and off site;
- make the final decision on the cancellation or postponement of an event due to severe weather conditions.

Related Documents and References

- CESA First Aid Policy (2017)
- SACCS Behaviour Education and Personal Responsibility Policy (2010)
- SACCS Policy for the Care, Wellbeing and Protection of Children & Young People (2011)
- Cabra Dominican College Student Handbook
- Cabra Dominican College Staff Handbook

Policy Title: Extreme Weather Policy
Ratified by Executive Leadership: 2018
Policy due for review: 2021