#### Lochdonhead Primary School

#### Draft WET WEATHER PROCEDURES

We are a health promoting school and we believe children have a right to fresh air and exercise at break time. As stated in the Convention of Rights for Children, article 31 –

## Children have a -

*Right to rest, play and*

*enjoy art and culture*

It is our expectation that children will go out to play twice per day the exception being if the weather conditions are extreme. We shall use a common sense approach, supported by the pupils.

**Why does this matter?** Quite simply, outdoor play is good for children.  
  
**The benefits of outdoor play are well documented, and include:**

* increasing physical activity
* increasing the body's vitamin D levels
* reducing anxiety and improving mood
* improving concentration and focus
* enhancing imaginative and creative play
* promoting problem solving and leadership skills
* developing stronger immune systems

### BEFORE 9.15 AM

When weather is severe children will be allowed into the school as they arrive. The pupils will take responsibility to come into school, change and go into the classroom. The class will be supervised by head teacher or member of staff in her absence.

### MORNING BREAK and LUNCH BREAK

If the weather is severe the children remain in their classrooms with something to do from the play resources. The head teacher or, in her absence, a staff member will monitor the class.

**PUPIL COUNCIL GUIDELINES**

* **All pupils voted that they wanted to play outside unless the rain was very heavy and playing outside was not comfortable (head teacher would prefer you all came in rather than huddled in the shelter)**
* **If we go out when it is light rain and the weather becomes more extreme we can report to Charlotte who will then gather all the pupils and bring us in**
* **If our school clothing becomes wet or damp it is our responsibility to come in immediately and report to a member of staff who will provide a change of clothing**
* **We will take responsibility to come to school with appropriate outer clothing. If we come to school with no coat we will remain inside during wet break and lunch times.**
* **If we have our coats and are advised to wear them it is our responsibility to do so.**

**OUTDOOR LEARNING**

*Curriculum for Excellence through Outdoor Learning has set out a vision for all schools and educational settings to provide frequent and progressive outdoor learning opportunities which are clearly part of the curriculum. It is the responsibility of all involved in education to recognise the place of outdoor learning within the curriculum and plan accordingly to ensure that all children and young people in Scotland receive these opportunities as part of their learning journey.* Page 26, 2010

<http://www.educationscotland.gov.uk/Images/cfeoutdoorlearningfinal_tcm4-596061.pdf>

We at Lochdonhead Primary School are committed to provide experiential learning, using the local environment to enhance learning.

**When should outdoor lessons be abandoned?**

1. When there is a potential risk to the children’s safety; if the surfaces are too slippery; or if the children do not have appropriate footwear for the activity.

2. If the teacher deems that the weather will have a detrimental effect on teaching and learning.

3. When the health of either party may be at risk.

**Damage limitation to the curriculum.**

* Rather than cancelling the lesson an indoor lesson should occur.
* As far as possible, the activity done inside should reflect the timetabled activity either through a small game or skill session.
* We will endeavour to add on an extra session outdoors to the timetabled block so that the children do not miss out. Should the inclement weather persist, then it may be pertinent to bring forward an ‘indoor’ block and revert to the outdoor block at a later date.

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