



POLICY:

REGULATION: JHF Student Safety - Windchill

EXHIBIT:

It is important for students to have time outdoors, for fresh air, unstructured play, and an opportunity to socialize with other students. However, on inclement weather days, with cold temperatures and high winds, the principal (or designate) will decide if students should be outside. Students will be supervised indoors if the combination of air temperature, combined with windchill, equals -27 deg C or colder, as reported by Environment Canada. The principal (or designate) may also have students remain indoors, if the principal deems local conditions are hazardous, even when not reported by Environment Canada (e.g. localized high winds). In making his/her decision, the principal will check regional weather forecasts (Environment Canada https://weather.gc.ca/canada_e.html or https://meteo.gc.ca/canada_f.html), as well as confer with outside supervision staff regarding local conditions.

According to Environment Canada, risk of frostbite is considered low at combined temperature/windchill between 0 and -27 deg C. Risk of frostbite begins to be a concern at temperatures colder than -27 deg C. The length of time outdoors will be considered, in cases where the combined temperature and windchill are cold, but do not exceed the -27 deg C combined threshold. The principal (or designate), and outdoor supervising staff, will make considerations for students who are not sufficiently dressed for the weather or for students whose parents have identified them as needing to remain indoors due to health concerns. If a parent requests extended time for a student to be indoors (beyond a short term health concern), when other students are outdoors, the principal (or designate) will request a meeting with the parent to discuss the child's needs, and may require medical, or other documentation, to support the request.

APPROVED:

REVISED: September 2018

SOURCE: Environment Canada. *Wind Chill: The Chilling Facts* downloaded at <https://www.canada.ca/en/environment-climate-change/services/weather-health/wind-chill-cold-weather/wind-chill-index.html> or <https://www.canada.ca/fr/environnement-changement-climatique/services/meteo-sante/indice-refroidissement-eolien-temps-froid/indice.html>

OTHER REFERENCE: