

Safety and Emergency Measures 10500 <hr/> Accommodation of Students During Cold or Inclement Weather	Administrative Application	
	Last Reviewed / Approved on:	February 20, 2026
	References:	The Education Act, 1995, Sec. 175 (1)(a) Policy 12 – Role of the Director
	Status:	Operational

Preamble

Accommodation of students during cold or inclement weather, the principal is advised to consider and prepare for the safety of students and staff of the Regina Catholic School Division (RCSD).

Application

1. The principal shall ensure that school procedures are in place so that students are not unduly exposed to cold or inclement weather.
2. School administration needs to ensure that students have access to a school building entrance. Parents/guardians are to be informed of the school procedure and are reminded that playground supervision is provided fifteen (15) minutes before morning and afternoon classes at elementary schools.
3. When determining whether an outdoor recess is advisable, Principals should consult with *Administrative Application 10500 – Accommodation of Students During Cold or Inclement Weather (Appendix A: Extreme Weather Guidelines)* and shall use -27 degrees Celsius as a guideline for which to announce an indoor recess/noon time for students during the winter months.
4. School administration needs to establish procedures at their school site when students are unable to go out-of-doors during recess and communicate these guidelines to parents/guardians.

Appendix A

EXTREME WEATHER GUIDELINES

The wind can make cold temperatures feel even colder. The wind chill index measures what the temperature feels like on exposed skin based on the speed of the wind. A wind chill can cause your body to lose heat faster and your skin to freeze very quickly. **In general, your risk of health effects increased when the wind chill values are below -27.**

User Guidelines for Specific Wind Chill

Wind Chill	Risk of Frostbite	Other Health Concerns	What to do
0 to -9	Low	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Slight increase in discomfort 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Dress warmly Stay dry
-10 to -27	Moderate	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Uncomfortable Risk of hypothermia if outside for long periods without adequate protection 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Dress in layers of warm clothing, with an outer layer that is wind resistant Wear a hat, mittens or insulated gloves, a scarf and insulated waterproof footwear Stay dry Keep active
-28 to -39	High: Exposed skin can freeze in 10 to 30 minutes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Risk of frostnip or frostbite: check face and extremities for numbness or whiteness Risk of hypothermia if outside for long periods without adequate clothing or shelter from wind and cold 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Dress in layers of warm clothing, with an outer layer that is wind-resistant Cover exposed skin Wear a hat, mittens or insulated gloves, a scarf, neck tube or face mask and insulated, waterproof footwear Stay dry Keep active
-40 to -47	Very High: Exposed skin can freeze in 5 to 10 minutes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> High Risk of frostbite: check face and extremities for numbness or whiteness. Risk of hypothermia if outside for long periods without adequate clothing 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Dress in layers of warm clothing, with an outer layer that is wind resistant Cover all exposed skin Wear hat, mittens or insulated gloves, a scarf, neck tube or face mask and insulated waterproof footwear. Stay dry Keep Active

Contact Numbers:

Environment Canada Weather Information: 306-780-5744

Weather forecasts: [Weather Environment Canada.html](#)

Wind chill information site: [Wind Chill Information & Cold Weather](#)