

Forest School – Poor Weather Conditions Protocol

Review Cycle:

Last Reviewed: 12th December
2018

Responsible for Review: Forest
School Leader

Next Review Date: September

‘Poor Weather Conditions’ are considered as snow, rain, wind, thunder/lightning storms and heat.

At the Livingstone Road Primary Federation, we believe that children should experience learning in their environment no matter what the weather, however responsibility must also be taken to ensure the safety and wellbeing of all children and adults.

It is the responsibility of the Forest School Leader to check local weather information before preparing/leaving the school building. If the Forest School Leader is unsure they will contact the site manager to discuss the weather conditions and safety implications.

During outdoor sessions the Forest School Leader is responsible for deciding if a session should be discontinued due to poor weather. The reasons for continuing/ceasing a session are detailed below:

Weather Condition	Reason To Continue	Reason to Cancel
Snow	Snow has settled and children have arrived with suitable clothing for a session in the snow	Snow is still falling, freezing and slippery conditions
Rain	Light rain, children are wearing suitable clothing.	Heavy rain, unsuitable clothing, ground becomes too slippery
Thunder and Lightening	Low rumbles of thunder, clear skies	Rumbles of thunder grow louder. Any visible lightning bolts
Wind	Light Wind	High wind, danger of falling branches and trees
Heat	Medium heat, children wearing sun protection. Keep in shaded areas. Offer water regularly.	Too hot. Risk of sun stroke and heat exhaustion.

Before starting Forest School sessions, parents are informed of our forest school approach and are reminded to ensure their children bring appropriate clothes to school for the session. Before going outside, the Forest School Leader ensures that children and adults are wearing weather appropriate footwear and clothing.

In the event that the weather conditions worsen during a Forest School session, all children and adults will return to the school building where they will partake in an alternative indoor activity.