INCLEMENT WEATHER POLICY

All Trinity College Colac Policies will be read and developed with reference to the Core Values, Vision and Mission of the College as well as any other relevant College policies.

RATIONALE:
At Trinity College Colac, we believe that the school has a duty of care to staff and students at all times. This duty of care includes protection against inclement weather during times when students would normally be outside.

SCRIPTURAL CONTEXT:
“For everything there is a season, and a time for every matter under heaven.”
Ecclesiastes 4:1

POLICY STATEMENT:
To ensure the well-being of students and staff during times of inclement weather a planned management strategy will be consistently implemented thereby catering for all circumstances - wet weather, hot weather, dust storms and electrical storms.

DEFINITION:
*Inclement weather* is generally defined as extreme heat, rain, lightning, dust storm or any other condition that is considered by the Principal to be unsuitable and/or unsafe.

POLICY GUIDELINES:

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<th>GUIDELINE INDICATORS:</th>
<th>Pastoral Care and welfare of the students and staff at the school, includes caring for them during times when weather is inclement.</th>
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<td>As part of the usual yard duty time-table process, an inclement weather time-table will be activated by the Principal or the Principal’s delegate, (usually the Director of Students) when conditions outside are considered to be unsuitable for students and staff.</td>
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<td>Where inclement weather is obvious prior to children being dismissed for a recess or lunch break, an announcement will be made by the Director of Students or delegate advising class teachers and those on yard duty to follow the inclement weather time-table until further notice.</td>
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<td>All students will be confined to their nominated inclement weather area or the classroom, unless permission has been granted by a teacher to leave temporarily, e.g. toilet break.</td>
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<td>Teachers will be responsible for organising children into the areas for eating.</td>
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<td>Students will be supervised by the teacher on duty at that time.</td>
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<td>On days when it is raining during recess or lunch time periods students will eat their lunch in the designated inclement weather areas.</td>
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<td>In the case of inclement weather during a recess break, the yard duty teacher will inform the Principal, or Principal’s delegate, (usually the Director</td>
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of Students) of the possible need to activate the inclement weather timetable.

The Principal or Principal’s delegate (usually the Director of Students) will assess the situation and make the decision to call the students inside, or alternatively, to seek adequate shelter, in which case the yard duty teacher will continue to supervise outside.

All staff and students are required to wear broad-brimmed hats during terms 1 and 4 consistent with the school’s Sunsmart policy.

Scheduled sport, physical education or other outside activities will need to be rescheduled or alternatively organised during times of inclement weather.

REFLECTIVE MATERIALS
School Vision and Mission Statements
Pastoral Care Policy
Sunsmart Policy

Ratified: 13th May, 2014
Board Chairman: Stephen Ryan
Date of Next review: May 2017