

Weather and Outdoor Play Guidelines at Global Academy of SC

The Global Academy of SC emphasizes the importance of fresh air and exercise for children, encouraging outdoor play whenever possible. However, decisions about outdoor activities are based on weather conditions, common sense, and practicality.

Outdoor Play Guidelines:

- Outdoor recess is provided several times per week, weather permitting.
- Children generally should not play outside when the heat index is 90°F or above or the wind chill is 32°F or lower.
- When extreme weather is approaching, students remain indoors during recess and physical education.

Cold Weather Advisory Guidelines:

- Administration exercises discretion for outdoor activities during cold weather, considering factors like temperature, wind chill, humidity, heat index, age of students, duration of outdoor time, clothing adequacy, and playground condition.
- Elementary school children can play outdoors in most conditions, with increased caution below 40°F.
- Below 35°F (including wind chill), students stay indoors.

Temperature Considerations and Proper Clothing:

- Below 60°F: Jacket or long sleeves recommended.
- Below 50°F: Coat and long pants recommended.
- Below 40°F: Gloves and hats with previously recommended clothing necessary.
- Below 35°F: Indoor recess or physical activity.

Health Considerations:

- Requests for health reasons are honored, especially for asthmatic children.
- Collaboration between parents and the school determines accommodations for children with medical conditions in cold weather.

Additional Weather Tips:

- Windy days can make it feel 10 to 20 degrees colder.
- Proper clothing, layering, and dryness are crucial for cold weather.
- Students returning after illness should remain inside.
- In hot weather, drinking water is essential, and light, sun-protective clothing is recommended.
- Encouraging hats, sunglasses, and sunscreen use in hot weather.

Emergency Closing Information:

- If schools may not open or need to close during the day due to weather or other conditions, parents are notified via Parent Square through phone calls, text messages, or emails.
- Decisions to close schools are made by 6:30 a.m.