

ST. JOSEPH ACADEMY
(SJA)

Department:	ECEC
Number:	800.17
Effective Date:	January 12, 2009
Review Date:	July 7, 2021
Revised Date:	February 27, 2020
Page:	1 of 2

I. Policy:

This policy outlines St. Joseph Academy's (SJA) expectations for ensuring that children are taken outside daily. The Department of Children and Families (DCF) requires full day programs to take the children outdoors twice daily weather permitting. The licensing regulation (DCF 251) define inclement weather as ***stormy or severe weather such as any of the following:***

- Heavy rain.
- Temperatures above 90 degrees Fahrenheit.
- Wind chills of 0 degrees Fahrenheit or below for children age 2 and above.
- Wind chills of 20 degrees Fahrenheit or below for children under age 2.

SJA will refrain from taking the children outside when it is recommended to keep the children indoors due to the high ozone.

II. Procedure:

A. Proper Dress:

It is important for staff to work with families to ensure their children are properly dressed for the weather. Parents should be asked to send clothing that is appropriate for the season. If the child comes unprepared for outdoor play, staff should put the child in extra clothes to ensure the child is warm. During cold weather, ensure the child is wearing snow pants, hats, gloves and boots.

Shoes should be comfortable and provide adequate protection for the feet during outdoor play. Flip-flops, slip-on shoes, open-toed sandals, crocs, jelly shoes and any shoes with heels are prohibited as they present a safety hazard.

During the summer months, children may need to wear sun screen or insect repellent. Staff can ask parents to provide these supplies and have the parent complete a permission slip. The sunscreen should have UVB and UVA protection of SPF 15 or higher. If the parent provides insect repellent, it should contain deet.

B. Indoor Recess:

Indoor recess is provided during inclement weather. The infants and toddlers use the Atrium area. The two year olds through four year olds use the gymnasium. Classrooms must follow their assigned time. Classrooms should be providing gross motor activities while using the space. Classrooms are responsible for cleaning the Atrium and gymnasium after their class is finished using the space.

C. Staff Supervision:

Children should be supervised while outside, in the Atrium and the gymnasium. Staff should not be congregated together talking. When two classrooms are together, at least two staff should be walking the perimeter of the play spaces monitoring the children while the other two staff are engaged in activities with children. If only one class is out, one teacher can monitor while the other teacher facilitates an activity. Staff should strategically place themselves near equipment that might be challenging for the children.

Approved by: 
President/CEO

Date 7/8/21