**Hot Weather Policy**

School excursions have a provision that states the excursion won’t go ahead if the temperature is over a certain temperature or on catastrophic Fire Rating Days.

These are decided on each specific excursion according to age and number of students, time of day of excursion and the activity type.

**You can expect changes to be made for an excursion involving more than 1 class,**

**if the forecast on the Adelaide BOM site the evening before is over 32˚ C.**

The Urrbrae Wetland will be **CLOSED** on Catastrophic Fire Rating Days

<http://www.cfs.sa.gov.au/site/prepare_act_survive_2012/prepare/identify_the_risk/am_i_at_risk/fire_danger_rating.jsp>

The Urrbrae Wetland Learning Centre has a refrigerated air-conditioning system, mains drinking water and a large undercover area outside.

The Wetland Manager will contact the teacher in charge a week prior to the excursion date if the weather forecast indicates the hot weather will affect your excursion. Alternative arrangements will be discussed. This judgment is based on a number of factors as listed above.

The policy is in place as we recognise that children are at greater risk of suffering from heat illness than adults. A child’s ability to respond to environmental heat and acclimatise to heat is due to physiological differences.

“Children sweat less and get less evaporative cooling than adults. In warm and hot

weather they have greater difficulty getting rid of heat; they look flushed, and feel

hotter and more stressed than adults”

*Source “Sports Medicine Australia”*, *r*efer to:

[*www.sma.org.au/wp-content/uploads/2009/05/beat-the-heat-2008-email-version.pdf*](http://www.sma.org.au/wp-content/uploads/2009/05/beat-the-heat-2008-email-version.pdf)

**Teachers and group leaders need to take measures that reduce the risk of heat illness in students** (particularly young children)**, for any temperatures above 250C such as:**

**Clothing**

* All school students must wear Cancer Council approved l hats (slouch, bucket or legionnaires). Exceptions are only through the winter months of June, July and August.
* All students must be dress appropriately, including collared shirts and closed toe shoes.
* All students must wear sunscreen on exposed skin, to be supplied by the school.

**Drinks**

* All school students need to bring a water bottle with them to the wetland.
* There is filtered tap water for students to refill their water bottles.
* Students are also encouraged to freeze their water bottles overnight.

**Lunch**

* If students are bringing a packed recess or lunch teachers need to encourage parents to pack food ininsulated containers with a freezerbrick or frozen water.
* Food can be stored inside the Wetland Learning Centre out of the heat.