Hot Weather Policy 2026-2027

Phoenix Private School, Doha – For Students and Staff

Effective Date: August 2026

Approved By: Principal& Governing Body

Next Review Date: August 2027

Mission, Vision & Core Values

Mission

To develop future leaders who are able to make positive changes throughout the world. We challenge today to create a better tomorrow.

Vision

To prepare a generation of Successful Learners, Confident Individuals, Responsible Citizens, and Effective Contributors.

Core Values

- **Perseverance**
- **Honesty**
- **Originality**
- **Enrichment**
- **Nurturing**
- **Inspiration**
- **eXcited to learn**

At Phoenix Private School, our commitment to student welfare and holistic development includes a strong focus on health and safety — particularly during extreme weather conditions.

1. Purpose

To ensure the health, safety, and comfort of students, staff, and visitors during extreme heat by implementing proactive, structured responses aligned with local climate and educational best practices.

2. Scope

Applies to all individuals on school grounds or involved in school-sponsored activities — including classrooms, outdoor spaces, buses, and events — during periods of elevated temperature.

3. Definitions

- **Extreme Heat:** Ambient temperatures exceeding 30°C (86°F), with increased concern above 35°C and during high humidity periods.
- **Heat Illness:** Conditions such as heat rash, heat cramps, heat exhaustion, and heat stroke, triggered by sustained heat exposure.

4. Temperature-Based Protocol Levels

Temperature	Risk Level	Phoenix Protocols
Below 30°C (86°F)	Normal	• Regular schedule. • Encourage hydration. Students must have their water bottles. • Routine outdoor activities.
31°C – 34.9°C	Caution	• Increase hydration breaks. • Limit outdoor PE/recess to 15 minutes max. • Hats, sunscreen and water bottles are essential.
35°C – 38°C	High Alert	• Suspend PE or strenuous outdoor activities. • Indoor break enforced. • Fans and shaded areas activated. • Teachers monitor for symptoms.
39.9°C +	Severe Risk	• All activities moved indoors. • Lightweight dress code encouraged. • Close blinds, use AC/fans. • Monitor vulnerable students.

Humidity, sun exposure, and heat index may trigger protocol activation even if air temperature is below threshold.

5. General Preventive Measures

- **Hydration:** Students bring labeled water bottles; teachers enforce 20-minute water breaks.
- **Ventilation:** Use AC, fans, or open windows; close blinds in sun-exposed rooms.

- **Transport:** Ensure bus ventilation; no child left in parked vehicles.
- **Dress:** Lightweight, breathable clothing permitted on extreme heat days.
- **Scheduling:** Shift physical activity to mornings or indoors.

6. Recognising and Responding to Heat Illness

Condition	Symptoms	Response
Heat Rash	Red, itchy skin	Keep area dry; apply powder
Heat Cramps	Muscle pain, sweating	Rest in shade, hydrate, stretch gently
Heat Exhaustion	Headache, nausea, dizziness, fatigue	Cool area, water intake, loosen clothing
Heat Stroke	Dry/hot skin, confusion, fainting, fast pulse	Cool body with wet cloths/fans, no fluids if unconscious

7. Roles and Responsibilities

Teachers & Staff

- Monitor student well-being.
- Adapt outdoor schedules and lesson plans.
- Enforce hydration and report heat concerns promptly.

School Nurse / First Aider

- Treat and document heat illness.
- Update emergency contact and medical records.
- Notify parents/guardians if necessary.

Leadership Team

- Monitor forecasts and heat index.
- Activate protocols and send community-wide alerts.
- Decide on school hour adjustments or closures.

8. Communication

- Heat alerts shared via **email**, **SMS**, and **[Parent App]**.
- Daily temperature status announced school-wide during alerts.

- Staff updates via internal communication (briefings/email).

9. Training and Awareness

- Staff receive **annual training** in heat safety and first aid.
- **Students** are taught basic sun safety and hydration habits during wellness classes.

10. Emergency Heat Protocol

Steps to follow for heat stroke or serious heat illness:

1. Nurse to call emergency services immediately
2. Move the individual to a cool/AC area
3. Apply cold compresses, loosen clothing
4. Monitor responsiveness
5. Notify parents or emergency contact

11. Policy Review and Local Practice

This policy will be reviewed:

- Annually (end of summer term)
- After any heat-related incident
- Based on parent/staff feedback