

# School Walking Policy – Extreme Weather & Air Quality

To keep all children safe and ensure fairness for every family, the daycare follows one clear and consistent process when deciding if children will be walked to and from school.

## Extreme Cold Weather School Walking Policy

### *Temperature Cut-Offs*

Children will NOT be walked to or from school if the temperature with or without wind chill is:

- Kindergarten: **-30°C or colder**
- Grade 1 and up (Before & After School): **-35°C or colder**

### *Official Weather App*

- WeatherCAN is the ONLY weather app used
- Other apps or websites will not be considered

### *How Parents Will Be Notified*

- A Remind App text will be sent to all families
- A notice will be posted on the front door at both locations

### *Morning School Walk Decision*

- Temperature is checked once at exactly 7:30 A.M.
- The decision is made based on the temperature at 7:30 A.M. and is final for the morning walk

### *If the temperature meets or exceeds the cut-off:*

- The school walk is cancelled
- The decision will NOT change, even if:
  - o The temperature improves shortly after
  - o Another weather app shows a different temperature

### *Daycare Attendance on Cancelled Walk Days*

- Children CANNOT stay at the daycare if the walk is cancelled
- Parents must transport children to and from school on these days

### *Afternoon School Walk Decision*

- Temperature is checked once at exactly **3:00 P.M.**
- The decision is based on that 3:00 P.M. reading and is final for the afternoon walk
- 2:30 P.M. - HEADS-UP message sent
- 3:00 P.M. - FINAL cancellation message sent (if required)

## **Air Quality Walking Policy**

### *Air Quality Cut-Off*

**Children will NOT be walked to or from school when the Air Quality Health Index (AQHI) is 9 or higher.**

### *Official Weather App*

- WeatherCAN is the ONLY app used for AQHI readings
- Other apps or websites will not be considered

### *Morning School Walk Decision*

- AQHI is checked once at exactly **7:30 A.M.**
- The decision is based on the AQHI at 7:30 A.M. and is final for the morning walk

### *If the AQHI meets or exceeds the cut-off:*

- The school walk is cancelled
- The decision will NOT change, even if:
  - o Air quality improves shortly after
  - o Another app shows a different reading

### *Daycare Attendance on Cancelled Walk Days*

- Children CANNOT stay at the daycare if the walk is cancelled
- Parents must transport children to and from school on these days

### *Afternoon School Walk Decision*

- AQHI is checked once at exactly **3:00 P.M.**
- The decision is based on that 3:00 P.M. reading and is final for the afternoon walk
- 2:30 P.M. - HEADS-UP message sent
- 3:00 P.M. - FINAL cancellation message sent (if required)

## **Parent Responsibilities**

*Parents/guardians are responsible to:*

- Download and refer to the WeatherCAN App
- Be subscribed to Remind App notifications
- Check messages on extreme weather and poor air quality days
- Make alternate transportation arrangements when required

**Missing or not seeing a message does NOT change the walking decision.**