West Lakes Shore Kindergarten
Wet Weather Policy

Purpose
The purpose of this Policy is to outline the relevant details in relation to wet weather play at this kindergarten. This Policy has been developed in consultation with West Lakes Shore Kindergarten staff and members of the Parents and Friends Committee.

Objectives
The objective of this Policy is to ensure that:
- Suitable guidelines are in place for wet weather play.
- Children are adequately dressed when playing outside in the wet weather.
- There is suitable storage of wet weather wear.
- Children are kept safe when playing outside in the wet weather.
- Children’s wellbeing is taken into consideration before they engage in wet weather play.

The WLSK’s Policy takes into account the need to consider the inclusion of the following strategies:

- **Guidelines** – Children will be given the opportunity to engage in wet weather play throughout the entire year. Wet weather play will not occur if the rain is extremely heavy or if storms/strong winds are present.

- **Wet weather wear** – Children are to be dressed in a rain coat, preferably with a hood, and gumboots if they are to engage in wet weather play. If they do not bring these items then they will remain playing under the verandah or inside.

- **Storage of wet weather wear** – On arrival children are to place their labelled rain coat on the hook behind their bag, and their gumboots are kept under their bag. Children can then swap their shoes for gumboots when outside play begins. Just before outside play finishes, educators will ensure children have taken off their wet raincoats and placed these on the drying rack by the fruit table. Their wet/muddy gumboots will then need to be placed under their coats also. They then either change back into their normal shoes or just have their socks on, ready for group time. All items are to be collected at the end of the day.

- **Children’s safety is paramount** - Educators are to restrict children playing on the climbing equipment and platform during wet weather play as surfaces become slippery. Running is not permitted during wet weather playtime.

- **Children’s wellbeing** – Children are discouraged to play outside in the wet weather if recommended by a parent or if the educator thinks it is not in the best interest for the child’s health.

MONITORING, EVALUATION AND REVIEW
Educators will monitor, evaluate and review the effectiveness of the wet weather policy at the end of Term 3, 2014, in consultation with the Parents and Friends Committee.

*Endorsed and Approved by Staff and Parents and Friends Committee 23rd June 2014*