



Haze

Policy

Revision History

Version	Date	Author / Owner	Approval Log
V1.0	2020-04-10	Principal	Current Policy
V2.0	2020-09-21	Principal	New template Approved by SDSC on 2020-09-09 Approved by the Board of Governors on 2020-09-21
V3.0	2022-03-28	First Aid Department (Operations Manager)	Review cycle and update to reflect responsibilities clearer Approved by SDSC on 2022-03-10 Approved by the Board of Governors on 2022-03-28



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1 Introduction / purpose

Singapore experiences southwest monsoon winds which may bring with them smoke and haze from forest fires in neighbouring countries. The German European School of Singapore (GESS) is committed to safeguarding the students and staff, particularly those with chronic lung conditions and who are affected by haze.

GESS' Haze policy (based on Ministry of Health advisory) has been established to determine when activities must be held at school during times of haze.

2 Scope / Applicability

This policy applies to the whole school.

3 Policy

3.1 Responsibilities of the School and First Aid Department

- GESS uses the National Environment Agency (NEA website) to monitor haze conditions. The source of 24-hour PSI and 1-hour PM2.5 readings are www.haze.gov.sg
- GESS' decision on school closures and daily programming activities will be based on The Ministry of Health advisory for the general public, which provides general advice on the preventative measures that can be taken to reduce the health impact of haze when air quality is poor.
- GESS' First Aid Department will hold sufficient emergency stock of N95 face masks for staff and all students with chronic lung conditions and/or conditions that are affected by haze but will not be able to provide sufficient stock for all students and staff members.
- Based on the Haze Procedures, the school shall inform all parents of possible cancellations of school activities and campus closure for students and/or staff.

3.2 Responsibilities of Parents

- GESS recommends that families keep a stock of N95 masks at home to meet their personal requirements during Haze periods, as stock levels of N95 masks in Singapore may be depleted or run out completely during periods of haze. This recommendation is noted on the required materials list for students.

4 Definitions

PSI - PSI stands for Pollutant Standards Index. It is an index to provide accurate and easily understandable information about daily levels of air quality.

PM2.5 - PM2.5 refers to atmospheric particulate matter (PM) that have a diameter of less than 2.5 micrometres.

N95 - N95 face mask/ respirator is an example of personal protective equipment that are used to protect the wearer from airborne particles and from liquid contaminating the face.

5 Policy authority

Policy Owner:	First Aid Department (Operations Manager)
Implementation Body:	First Aid Department and PLT
Governing school subcommittee:	School Development Subcommittee
Next required review date:	March 2024
Final Approval:	Board of Governors

6 Related policies/references/processes

[Haze Procedures](#)
www.nea.gov.sg
www.moh.gov.sg
www.haze.gov.sg

7 Policy Compliance

7.1 Compliance Measurement

Compliance / Audit will verify compliance to this policy through various methods, including but not limited to, business tool reports, internal and external audits, and feedback to the policy owner.

7.2 Non-Compliance

Any employee in violation of this policy will be subject to appropriate disciplinary action, in accordance with GESS Disciplinary Policy, up to and including termination and notifying the appropriate law enforcement authorities