



Air Pollution Policy

Review Date: January 2024

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Next reviewed: December 2025

Mission: At Ascot, students develop according to their needs in a welcoming, family environment. The challenging curriculum enables our students to become adaptable lifelong learners. Our intercultural ethos strives to promote a strong sense of respect for all.

Vision: We aim to be a learning community focussed on well-being and balanced lifestyles. An Ascot graduate is resilient, principled, and cares for the environment and others.

Values: Collaborate, Communicate, Respect

This policy document has been created to advise staff on preventative measures when air pollution levels reach unhealthy levels.

Definitions

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Air pollution

The contamination of air due to the presence of substances in the atmosphere that are harmful to the health of humans and other living beings, or cause damage to the climate or materials. There are many different types of air pollutants, such as gases, particulates, and biological molecules.

Prolonged exposure

The duration of prolonged exposure is dependent upon individual research studies but is often a period of several months to several years.

Strenuous activity

An activity that increases the heart rate to a level typically associated with cardio training/exercise

Sensitive groups

Sensitive groups can include young children (all Early Years students), the elderly, pregnant

Sensitive individuals

People with underlying medical conditions: Parents are encouraged to maintain up-to-date medical records for their children. Although not exhaustive, children with a diagnosis of Asthma, Cystic Fibrosis,

Chronic Lung Disease, Arrhythmia, and Cardiac Valve Abnormalities will be grouped into the sensitive group as indicated above regardless of age.

1.0 The School's Responsibility

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1.1 Measuring of Air Pollution

- The official source of air pollution data used by the school is: <http://aqicn.org/city/bangkok/>
- The school is situated in the Klong Chan area
- The school Portal will display pollution readings as per a colour scale and staff will respond accordingly. <https://portal.ascot.ac.th>

1.2 Responses to Air Pollution Readings

Ascot has developed our practices with other international schools in China, SE Asia, and the US, based on information from the EPA, World Health Organization, and UNICEF. Based on new studies and confusion around the complexity of AQI calculations, Ascot has updated our Air Quality Guidelines to be based on a combination of AQI levels and PM2.5 levels.

The index provided is sourced from the American Embassy AQI portal

[Air Quality Index \(AQI\) - U.S. Embassy & Consulate in Thailand](#)

<https://www.iqair.com/th-en/thailand/bangkok/saphan-sung>

1.1 The School's Response

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Pollution levels	Numerical Value	School actions
Good	0 - 50	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • School activities are unaffected.
Moderate	51 - 100	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • School activities are unaffected • Monitor and observe students who have respiratory conditions or are identified as a sensitive group or individual.

Unhealthy for sensitive groups or individuals.	101 - 150	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Students with asthma and other respiratory conditions should be monitored carefully. • Students experiencing severe coughing, breathing difficulties or eye irritations should consult the school nurse. • Activities may be modified for sensitive groups or individuals to reduce prolonged exertion.
Unhealthy	150- 200	<p>Early Years Students</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Indoor play • PE will be moved indoors <p>Primary Students</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Students reduce outdoor activity to 15 minutes per break. • PE will be moved indoors <p>Secondary Students</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Limit outdoor play to 30 minutes per break • PE will be moved indoors
Very Unhealthy	201 -300	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All outdoor activities are to be moved indoors
Hazardous	301+	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All outdoor activities are cancelled. • School may be closed and work sent online.