

HSL haze policy

During the period from May to October, Singapore can be affected by (severe) smoke haze due to forest fires in the region. The severity of the haze depends on several factors, including wind direction and the amount of fires in nearby countries. Haze and smoke may, among others, cause irritation of the eyes, airways, nose and throat. It can particularly be problematic for those that suffer from chronic conditions such as asthma. The Singaporean National Environment Agency (NEA) measures the air quality by taking PSI (Pollutant Standards Index) and PM2.5 readings.

All school measures are based on the 24-hour PSI readings (South region of Singapore). This is in line with recommendations of the NEA, Ministry of Healthcare (MOH) and Ministry of Education (MOE). Readings can be found at www.haze.gov.sg.

24-hour PSI level	School management measures
<p>Up to 100</p> <p>Good to moderate</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - All normal activities will continue. - When the PSI is 50 or higher, air purifiers should be turned on all day in all (class)rooms. - When the PSI reaches 75, parents and teachers of students that suffer from pre-existing respiratory or heart conditions will be informed through email so they can monitor these children closely. This email will be sent only once per haze period. - When the PSI is 75 or higher, students experiencing discomfort may ask to stay indoors. Teachers make the final decision in this matter. - When the PSI is 100 or below, but the PM2.5 exceeds 56, school may decide to temporarily suspend outdoor activities.
<p>101-200</p> <p>Unhealthy</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Strenuous or prolonged outdoor physical exertion is minimised. There will be no outdoor playtime, PE or outdoor school outings. Being in the hallways is allowed. - After school activities (NSA) will move indoors when possible and otherwise be cancelled. Affected parents will be informed through email. - All indoor doors will be closed and air purifiers remain turned on. - Students and staff are still allowed to walk through the hallways. - Decisions to cancel (outdoor) school outings will be made by the

	<p>MT in the morning of the trip at 7:00am and will apply for the entire day.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Decisions regarding outdoor playtime will be made by the MT around 7:30am and remain in place until further notice. PSI readings will be checked hourly by the School Health Coordinator and/or the MT. - Students with pre-existing respiratory or heart conditions can stay at home when medically justifiable. - Students and staff who are feeling unwell should be accommodated in an airconditioned room with the air purifier turned on (e.g. First Aid room). Parents will be informed. - Outdoor work by staff should be minimised as much as possible.
<p>201-300 Very unhealthy</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - All outdoor activities will be cancelled. - Walking in the hallways is only allowed when unavoidable. PE lessons, music lessons and library visits may continue. - Outdoor cleaning activities should be minimized, wearing of a N95 mask is mandatory while doing outdoor work (provided at First Aid room). - Bus waiting times will be minimized.
<p>300 or higher Hazardous</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - All outdoor activities have to be avoided. Lessons are scaled down if necessary. - All students will be in an enclosed indoor space with air purifiers on. Walking through the hallway is only allowed if unavoidable. There will be no library visits, physical education or music lessons as walking through the hallways can be hazardous to health. - If the PSI reaches 300 during a school day, all actions of a 'very unhealthy' PSI remain in action. There will be no early school closure and indoor after school activities continue. - If the PSI is forecast to remain at a level of 300 or above, the school will consider closure. The decision about the closure of the school will always be based on the advice of the Singapore authorities (NEA, MOH, MOE).

- Parents will be informed about measures through Social Schools. Notifications will not be sent out on a daily but only in case of a changed situation or when necessary.
- When PSI is around 300, information about school closure will be shared through Social Schools using 'push notification'.