

August 26, 2026

To Parents and Guardians

Chiba City Board of Education

### School Attendance During Weather Warnings and Other Weather Alerts (Request)

We would like to express our sincere appreciation for your continued understanding and cooperation in supporting educational activities in Chiba City. We also extend our heartfelt sympathies to those who were affected by the recent heavy rainfall in Chiba.

In recent years, improvements in the accuracy of weather forecasting have made it possible to predict, to a certain extent, the impact of approaching typhoons and other severe weather events from the day before. In addition, in order to enable parents/guardians and schools to respond in a more planned and organized manner, Chiba City will revise certain procedures regarding school attendance during weather warnings, including the introduction of new school closure decision criteria for the previous day, effective September 1, 2026.

Until now, 7:00 a.m. on the day has been the standard time for making school closure decisions. By establishing criteria for making closure decisions on the previous day, schools will be able to make decisions at an earlier stage and communicate them to parents and guardians, making it easier for families to plan ahead.

Furthermore, to ensure as much consistency as possible throughout the city, Chiba City has reviewed and clarified its decision-making criteria. Our response is based on four fundamental principles:

- Ensuring the Safety of Students
- Ensuring Learning Opportunities for Students
- Consideration for Parents' Work Commitments
- A System for Early Planning and Predictability

Based on these principles, and after carefully assessing weather conditions and the safety of school routes, schools will continue to accept students whenever it is determined that educational activities can be conducted safely. Our basic approach is to keep schools open whenever possible.

Please note that Chiba City covers a wide geographical area, and the effects of severe weather, such as wind, rain, and road conditions, may vary significantly from one area to another, even within the city. Taking into account experiences from past disasters, Chiba City allows principals to decide on school closures based on the specific circumstances of their school district and local conditions, even when the citywide closure criteria are not met.

We kindly ask for your understanding of the purpose of these measures and appreciate your cooperation based on a shared understanding of the City's approach.

Details regarding the procedures to be followed when weather warnings and other alerts are issued are provided in the attached document. We ask that you carefully review this information.

«Contact Information»

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