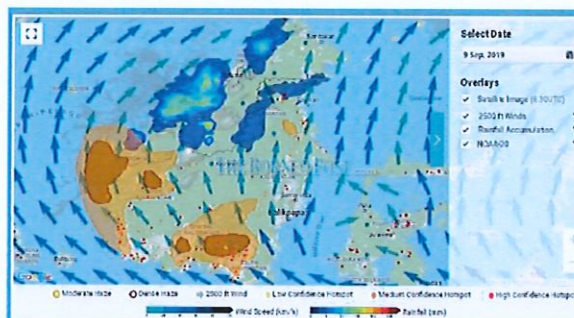




*Students arrive in school for their UPSR examination donning face masks. – Photo by Muhammad Rais Sanusi*

The haze, which began to worsen over the weekend, has caused schools to close around the city, though those sitting for their Ujian Pencapaian Sekolah Rendah (UPSR) examinations will have to sit for their papers despite the poor air quality.

Based on information on the Asean Specialised Meteorological Centre's website, it appears that the improved conditions were due to a drastic drop in the number of hotspots in Kalimantan and rain over certain parts of the state.



*An image on the Asean Specialised Meteorological Centre shows hotspots, the haze, rainfall and wind direction in Borneo yesterday.*

However, the wind direction continues to be blowing from over Kalimantan's hotspot areas towards Sarawak.

According to a news report yesterday, Indonesia had dispatched some 9,000 personnel to fight the forest and peat fires plaguing Kalimantan, causing the trans-boundary haze which has worsened as wind directions force it upwards towards major cities and towns in Borneo.