

## Adverse Weather Policy

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In the event of adverse weather we will try to keep the school open providing that we can provide a safe educational environment. We recognise that school closure causes parents difficulties but the health and safety of the children is our first priority and if in the Headteacher's opinion this can not be assured then the school will be closed.

In taking the decision to open the school the following factors have to be taken into account:

- The school must be able to provide a safe environment for the staff and pupils.
- Sufficient staff must be able to travel safely to the school.
- Road conditions by the school must be safe to parents to deliver and collect children from the school.
- If the weather is likely to worsen significantly during the day.

We will always take into account advice from local and national organisations, such as guidance on non-essential travel.

If snow has fallen overnight then a decision as to whether to open or close the school is usually made before 8am. Decisions are made as soon as the Headteacher has sufficient information regarding the local travel conditions and staff numbers. If the decision is made to close the school then the following action will be taken to inform parents:

- We will contact all parents and carers via the school text system\*, social media and on the website.
- On all days we will notify the following local radio stations: Breeze FM (105.6 & 107.4), Heart Radio (102.9 & 97.0), BBC Berkshire (104.1 & 104.4). Information about school closures is broadcast throughout the day, and normally appears on their web sites.
- Please note that it may not be possible to update the school notice board or answer phone.

We recognise that many of our parents live in rural locations. If the school is open but parents do not feel that they can safely travel to the school they should contact the school office. The Headteacher has the discretion to authorise absence in such circumstances.

If the school is open and the weather conditions deteriorate significantly during the day the Headteacher may decide to close the school early. In these circumstances we will contact all parents and carers and ask that they arrange collection of their children as soon as practical.

**\*In order to ensure that all parents are reached we are now including ALL families in our texting system. If you do not wish to be part of this please inform the school office.**

**Review**

This Policy will be reviewed bi-annually by the Full Governing Body.

**Date approved**

February 2010

**Date reviewed**

January 2021