

## Severe Weather Policy

The school will make every effort to remain open wherever possible in severe weather. The decision to close the school will be made by the Head teacher and Education Director or Chair of Governors if one or more of the following conditions apply:

- Insufficient staff are able to travel to school to keep the school running safely.
- Conditions on the school site are dangerous.
- Conditions are considered to or anticipated to later become too hazardous to ensure safe travel.
- Our first priority will always be to ensure the health, safety and wellbeing of pupils, staff, parents and families.

### **In The Event of Heavy Snow *before* the School Day Starts**

#### **Parents**

When school closure is a possibility parents should find out whether the school is open by:

- Checking the school website
- Checking email or text messages

If it is decided that the school will open, but the road conditions are difficult, parents should ring the school to advise that they are likely to be late.

If parents assume that the school is closed, or decide to keep their children home, the absence will be recorded as unauthorised unless the Headteacher is satisfied that there are exceptional circumstances.

The school fully appreciates that in bad weather children may arrive later than usual.

If there are adverse weather conditions in the morning the Headteacher will allow the children into school via the Cullingworth Road gate (next to the crossing). KS2 are to wait in the sports hall, KS1 and reception will be escorted to class.

### **In The Event of Heavy Snowfall *during* the School Day**

If there is forecast or heavy snowfall during the school day, the Headteacher will decide whether it is necessary to close the school early. The Office will contact parents and ask that they pick their child/children up from school as soon as possible.

If a parent rings requesting they pick their child up early due to the weather, and the decision has not been made to close the school, these requests will be considered on an individual basis by the Headteacher.

#### **Updates**

The Head teacher and Education Director or Chair of Governors will make the decision on when the school will reopen in the event of closure. Parents are encouraged to check the school website, their emails and text messages for updates.

### **Excessive Heat or Cold**

The Headteacher will decide if the weather is severe enough for an “indoor” break or lunch in the case of extreme heat or cold.

Procedures for wet breaks and lunches will be followed. Where it is felt the children could benefit from some time outdoors, this will be shorter than the regular length of break or lunch. When children are outdoors in extreme heat or cold, the school will ensure that all pupils are appropriately dressed and are aware of sheltered and shaded area.

### **The Role of Parents**

Parents are encouraged to play a supportive role by ensuring children arrive to school appropriately dressed.

In summer this includes:

- Applying sun cream from home
- Ensuring children have a named sun hat
- Ensuring children have a named water bottle

In colder weather this includes:

- Ensuring children have a named jumper or fleece
- Ensuring children have a warm jacket or coat
- Provide named hats, scarves and gloves if required