



Adverse Weather Procedures for Hillside Primary and Nursery School

November 23



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It is the policy of the school to make every effort to remain open whenever possible. The decision to close the school either before or during the school day will be made by the Headteacher.

The school will only be closed if one or more of the following conditions apply:

- Insufficient staff are able to come in to keep the school running safely.
- Conditions on site are dangerous.
- Conditions are or are anticipated to later become too hazardous for travel.

If the school is to close:

- The closure will be recorded on the school's website <http://www.hillsideprimary.com>
- Parents who have provided up to date mobile phone numbers and/or email addresses will be alerted to the closure using the Parent Text service and/or by DOJO.
- The school will make all practical efforts to keep parents informed as to the situation with the school during adverse weather conditions, as we appreciate that such conditions and the uncertainty places very considerable difficulties upon parents. However, parents are expected to check the websites/DOJO when it is clear a closure is a possibility.

The school appreciates that during bad weather children may arrive later than normal; parents should endeavour to contact the school to let them know they are on their way if likely to be delayed.

In the event of the school having to close during the day due to unforeseen worsening weather or similar unforeseen circumstances:

- Parents will be contacted by text or DOJO to advise them of the early closure. Such an early release will only be contemplated in very extreme circumstances.
- Children are expected to continue their studies at home and advice will be provided on the school website or DOJO.

Site Safety:

- In the event of snow and ice, an emergency route into school will be in operation. Access into school will be via St. Patricks Road car park and the main entrance on Roberts Lane as these will be cleared and gritted. Parents, children, visitors and staff should be aware that pathways, even where cleared, do remain hazardous. Students will also be reminded of this in assembly or in the classroom.
- In icy conditions the site team will make every endeavour to salt pathways from the main student gates to the nearest entrance into the building.
- Where necessary, essential pathways will be maintained as clear as possible throughout the day.

- On school days where the school is closed to students, the site team and senior staff will monitor conditions in order to re-open the school as soon as it is safe to do so.
- During adverse weather conditions, the playground may be out of bounds at the beginning and end of school, and if necessary , at break times as well.

In the Headteachers absence the most senior leader on site will assume responsibility for making all decisions relating to Adverse Weather Procedures.

Impact on staff:

- Our priority is for the children of Hillside Primary and Nursery School. However, it is understood that members of staff will also need to take responsibility for their own children as well as their own transport arrangements in adverse weather conditions.
- When the school is open, it is expected that all staff will do their best to get to work even if this means they will be late. Keeping the school informed of any problems that staff encounter is a priority.
- If students are dismissed during the school day, we will need to ensure adequate supervision for those who remain in school. Staff will be informed by Senior Staff that they can leave as soon as is reasonably possible. Priority will be given to those staff who have been advised by their child's school that their child must be collected because their school is also closing and those staff that live the furthest away.
- If the school is closed: The headteacher will contact staff, staff will use any snow closure time spent at home in worthwhile preparation and planning.

Written: November 2023 Review date: November 2024