



**NEW OSCOTT PRIMARY SCHOOL**

## **Adverse Weather Policy - Information for Parents**

### **Procedures regarding adverse weather affecting the opening of the school**

In the event of adverse weather, all attempts will be made to keep the school open. If the Local Authority decides to close all the schools we have been assured that the media - Heart FM, Radio WM and Free Radio will issue that news by 6.45a.m. at the latest.

However, there are likely to be instances when local conditions will force the closure of our own school. This decision will lie with the Head Teacher who will announce the school closure as early as possible on the school website ([www.newoscott.bham.sch.uk](http://www.newoscott.bham.sch.uk)), on local radio stations and through our texting system which sends a text to the first parent on the contacts sheet. The following conditions will be taken into account when making a decision about school closure.

1. Insufficient staff are able to come in to keep the school running safely
2. Conditions on site are dangerous
3. Conditions are considered to be or are anticipated to later become too hazardous for travel (e.g. an amber or red weather warning specifically for the Birmingham area).

### **Procedures regarding adverse weather during the school day**

In the event of extreme adverse weather conditions developing during the school day, the decision may be taken to allow parents to collect children from school before the end of the school day.

Only under exceptional circumstances will the school close early. Wherever possible, parents will be sent a text to inform them that they may pick up children after a given time. If at all possible, this will be after 1.30 p.m. to allow registration of pupils after the school lunchtime and to ensure the safety of all the pupils. We feel it is far safer for pupils to be dismissed from their classrooms by the class teacher than from dinner halls/classrooms by Lunchtime Supervisors. Parents would be required to sign children out in the usual way when collecting before the end of the school day.

Markham Road can be particularly treacherous during snowfall. If you have to use a motor vehicle we would be most grateful if you could avoid the road directly adjacent to the school site.

### **School opening during snowy and icy conditions**

In the event of snowfall, paths around school will be cleared/gritted in a particular order:

- 1) The main pedestrian path up to the main entrance
- 2) The path from Jevons Road to Larks and Owls/Nursery
- 3) The Year 6 steps
- 4) The path round to Year 3 and 4 (not the car park)
- 5) A path though the Infant playground to the Reception classes
- 6) The path across the field
- 7) The steps from Jevons Road into the Infant playground

The top field gate and the gate adjoining the Infant playground (with steps) on Jevons Road will not be opened until the path/steps have been gritted. Please note, this may mean that these entrances are not open in time for the start of school.

In the event of snowfall and difficult conditions on site, pupils will be allowed to come into school through the main entrance. This will include pupils attending morning Dawn til Dusk.

We have a large site at New Oscott Primary School and it is not possible to clear or grit all areas. Please take care on untreated paths and playgrounds.

### **Absence from school due to adverse weather when the school is open**

When the school is open but extreme weather prevents a child attending, parents must inform the school so that the pupil is not registered as having an unauthorised absence.

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