



Alderman Pounder Infant and Nursery School

Policy for Severe Weather Conditions

Document Owner: Head Teacher

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Review frequency: Annual Review alongside Health & Safety

REVISION HISTORY

Version	Revision Date	Next review due	Summary of Changes (and author)
1.0	Autumn 2014	Autumn 2015	Policy put in place (DHT)
1.1	Autumn 2015	Autumn 2016	No changes
1.2	Autumn 2016	Autumn 2017	No changes
1.3	Autumn 2017	Autumn 2018	No changes

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

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.

If the school is to close:

1. The closure will be recorded on the Nottinghamshire County Council website by the Head Teacher. This information will be displayed to the public via the schools' directory on the NCC website:

<http://www.nottinghamshire.gov.uk/learning/schools/school-closures/>

2. The school will also contact the media, BBC Radio Nottingham (103.8FM and 95.5FM) and Gem106 (106FM), who will then broadcast details.

3. The school will inform parents via the school text message service. Parents are automatically included in the text message service providing their contact details are up-to-date.

The school will make all practicable 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 for text messages and make themselves aware of the radio broadcasts when it is clear that 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. The school recognises there will be isolated instances where families are cut off, even where the clear majority of children can get into school. In such instances parents should inform the school of the circumstances of this exceptional situation, as the school has a duty to clarify the circumstances of each case so as to be able to formally authorise the absence to the Local Authority. Parents acting on the assumption that the school would be closed without gaining confirmation, or failing to inform the school of the circumstances that prevents the child coming into school, risks their child being registered as an unauthorised absence.

Where the school is officially closed, all absence is counted as authorised absence.

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 phone either at home or work and asked to collect their child/ren. Such an early release will only be contemplated in very extreme circumstances.

In the event of snow some pathways will be cleared and salted. Parents, children and visitors should be aware that pathways, even where cleared, can remain dangerous and should take due care. Children will also be reminded of this in assembly. Before and after school opening hours parents are responsible for ensuring their children do not slide on the school playground.

Where necessary, essential pathways will be maintained as clear as possible throughout the day. The school will salt particularly hazardous areas of the school site. All staff will be made aware that the car park will not be completely cleared of ice and snow and that due care must be taken at all times.

During adverse weather conditions parents are kindly requested not to bring their children to school until the start of the school day unless they are attending Bouncing Beans, which will endeavour to keep running.

On school days where the school is closed to pupils, the pathway will still be maintained during snow and ice weather on a regular basis by the site manager, so as to keep the pathways clear and prevent build-up of ice and snow.

In the Head Teacher's absence the Deputy Head Teacher or a member of the Senior Leadership Team on site will assume responsibility for making all decisions relating to the Adverse Weather Policy.