



EXTREME WEATHER POLICY

Crofton Infant and Junior Schools are committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment.

Staff Responsible:	Head Teacher
Date of Review:	July 2017
Date of Next Review:	July 2019

VERSION CONTROL

Date	Change
January 2018	Changed to new format
March 2018	Page 4 amended to reflect additional methods by which we advise the parents of school closure.

Contents

1) Aims	4
2) Practice	4
3) Site Open	4
4) Site Closed	4
5) Severe Weather Warnings	5

Aim

To make Crofton Infant and Crofton Junior School as safe as possible when severe weather conditions prevail.

Practice

In slippery conditions when there is ice or snow on the ground, all reasonable steps will be taken to ensure safe access and entry for children, parents, staff, visitors and other users of the school. It is the responsibility of the site staff to inform the Head Teacher whether the school could be opened safely, this is to be done by 6.30am.

The school will be deemed open unless a message is received from school to the contrary.

Site Open

In the event that premises staff feel they can make the site safe to open they must ensure that all main pathways are clear and have grit or salt down to ensure slips and falls do not occur.

A risk assessment will be carried out on the site for a decision to allow children out during play time.

Parents/carers must ensure that if their child comes into school in boots or wellingtons that they have a pair of shoes to change into and have appropriate warm clothing. All parents/carers bringing their children to school must ensure that snow balls are not thrown as this is deemed to be a Health and Safety risk.

Assessment must be made of the car park to decide if it is safe enough to open, in the case that it is unsafe a sign must be put on the gates informing staff and visitors that it is out of use.

Site Closed

In extreme conditions, when the school cannot be brought into a safe condition, the Head Teacher may make a decision to close the school. The Head Teacher will also consider the severity of the local weather, pathways which may make access particularly difficult and the ability of staff to get to school.

In the case that the school is open but certain teachers are unable to get into school, decisions will be made to close individual classes. Alternatively, the decision might have to be taken to close the entire school. In either event, text messages and e-mails will be sent to the named priority 1 and 2 contacts with parental responsibility. We will also send messages via Twitter, Facebook and our mobile phone app, and will put a message on the front page of the website.

Severe weather warnings

The LA website will be updated as often as appropriate with severe weather warnings. The website also includes guidance for parents and others who may be concerned about school closures.

An e mail will be sent home to all parents at the first report of severe weather informing them to check the school website for possible closures.

Reviewed July 2017

Next Review July 2019