01 Health and safety procedures

**01.22 Policy for Adverse Weather Conditions**

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 or health and safety cannot be maintained  
3. Conditions are considered to be or are anticipated to later become too hazardous for travel.

If the Pre-school is to close:

1. Notification of the closure will be added to Famly and Facebook/instagram as soon as possible.  
3. Staff will be notified directly by group text from the Manager.

 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 the website, social media and famly when it is clear that a closure is a possibility.  
The Pre-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 Pre-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 pre-school of the circumstances of this exceptional situation. Where the Pre-school is officially closed, all absence is counted as authorised absence.

**Weather deterioration during the day**  
In the event of the Pre-school having to close during the day due to unforeseen worsening weather or similar unforeseen circumstances, parents will be contacted by Famly and by phone either at home or work and asked to collect their child. Such an early release will only be contemplated in extreme circumstances.

Staff who are likely to face difficulties in getting home may have to leave work early, taking into account their personal safety. This decision will be taken in collaboration with the Manager. Minimum cover arrangements in Pre-school will be provided by employees who do not have a particularly long or difficult journey home to ensure staffing ratios are maintained for the safety of the children.

**On-site safety**  
In the event of snow some pathways will be cleared and salted. Parents, children, staff and visitors should be aware that pathways, even where cleared, may remain dangerous.  
In icy conditions the caretaker of the Primary school will salt along the pavement which runs down the side of the car park.  
 From the gate to the front entrance doors, the Manager will salt the path.  
Where necessary, essential pathways will be maintained as clear as possible throughout the day. The car park will not necessarily be cleared of ice and snow and staff should be aware that due care must be taken at all times.  
  
During adverse weather conditions, parts of the outdoor areas may be restricted in use for the children. This will be risk assessed by the Manager.  
In the Manager’s absence the Deputy Manager will assume responsibility for making all decisions relating to the Adverse Weather Policy.