



**THE DISTRICT**

CE PRIMARY SCHOOL

# **Adverse Weather Procedure**

*The caring path to achievement, reflecting the values of Christ.*



**ADVERSE WEATHER CONDITIONS**

During the winter months there are occasions when we can experience adverse weather conditions. It is always very difficult when we have snow and ice to determine how this will affect travel, etc. Other factors which may affect the opening of school could also include breakdown in the heating; frozen or burst pipes; inaccessibility of roads and/or the site due to very heavy snowfall or other adverse conditions. I would ask that you follow the policy below if we experience any bad weather during the winter months.

If at all possible the school will remain open and staff will be here as normal. However due to road conditions some staff may be late arriving and the start of the school day could be affected. We would ask, therefore, that children do not arrive on these days until 8.55 am. It is also difficult to give definitive answers around the ability to open breakfast club on these days, so parents/carers would need to be prepared for breakfast club being closed, if we do not have the staff on site to open the school.

**We would ask that you listen to the local radio station (BBC Radio Merseyside FM 95.8), (Wish FM 102.4) or (Heart FM 105.4), until you are ready to leave for school for information if you feel that a problem may arise from any adverse weather conditions. Please make sure mobile phone numbers are up-to-date in school as text messages will be sent out whenever possible.**

We always hope to be open as normal, however, we feel you should be aware of the situation to avoid confusion should severe weather conditions cause disruption. If Police advise people not to travel, this will impact on staff driving into work.

**The Policy at The District C E Primary School for adverse weather conditions is that:**

**At the start of the school day**

- The Chair of Governors and Headteacher will make a decision based on local conditions as to whether it is safe to open the school. Factors which will also need to be considered include the number of staff who can get into school, health & safety of the site and availability of first aiders.
- To enable the school to open it may be necessary to delay the start time and again these details would be given to parents via local radio (BBC Radio Merseyside FM 95.8), (Wish FM 102.4) or (Heart FM 105.4).
- Parents are asked to note that it may not be possible for staff to answer the telephone and we would ask that you do not call before 8.45am. Listening to the local radio for details of any closure is the preferred method of communication. Our website will be updated during adverse weather at [www.district.st-helens.sch.uk](http://www.district.st-helens.sch.uk). Information will also be posted to the St Helens Council website at [www.sthelens.gov.uk](http://www.sthelens.gov.uk). If you have internet access, please use this method of accessing updates.

**During the school day**

- Once a decision has been made to open the school it will **not close during the day**.
- If the weather becomes severe during the day then parents may contact the school if they feel that they would like to collect their child early for safety reasons (i.e. travelling/walking long distances or collecting other children from local schools).
- Parents will then be advised that children can be collected from 1.30pm onwards (i.e. after lunch).

- The school will remain open until normal home time. However, if parents are delayed due to adverse weather conditions, then they should contact the school if possible to give an anticipated arrival time. Parents of children who attend after school clubs may be asked to pick up at normal school finish time or as soon as possible.
- Children will be supervised until a parent/carer is able to collect them.
- Parents must consider their own safety, traffic congestion and safety of others in these circumstances and understand that children at The District will be cared for until it is possible for them to be collected.

We do hope this clarifies the policy for inclement weather at The District and we would ask that you keep this sheet for future reference throughout the winter months.

Thank you