



THE DISTRICT
CE PRIMARY SCHOOL

Adverse Weather Procedure

Approved by:	Lavern Shelford	Date: May 2022
Last reviewed on:	December 2022	
Next review due by:	October 2025	

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

ADVERSE WEATHER CONDITIONS

The District CE Primary School's Christian Vision Statement

"I am the vine; you are the branches." John 15:5

Just as the branches need the vine to grow and bear good fruits, so we need each other. Within the District family, each person is valued and loved, reaching out throughout our school, homes, families and the wider community for a stronger future. Our Christian vision statement permeates through everything we do at The District and this policy was developed to reflect togetherness, best value and creating a sense of belonging.

The District CE Primary School will endeavour to keep the school open and operating as normal. However, in the event of severe and adverse weather conditions, it may be necessary to decide to close the school for the safety of the children and staff, following guidance from the Local Authority, and following the adverse weather policy and procedure.

The decision to close will be made by the Headteacher in consultation with the Chair of Governors consideration being given to the following:

- Health and Safety – will remaining open constitute a significant risk to pupils and/or staff?
- Availability of staff – has the severe weather meant that a significant number of staff have been unable to attend making it impossible to open?

Our first priority will always be to ensure the health and safety and well-being of our pupils, staff, parents/carers, and families.

During the winter months there may be occasions when we can experience adverse weather conditions. We will clear paths within school to make access as safe as possible and will keep supplies of grit to support this. Care is always needed when using pathways that have been gritted.

If at all possible, the school will remain open, and staff will be here as normal. However, there may be occasions when the school opens later to allow staff and children to arrive on site safely, wherever possible, this decision will be made the day before and you will be informed via class dojo/text or a note and this will be reported on our website and Facebook account. It is difficult to give definitive answers about the ability to open the Breakfast Club on these days, therefore, parents/carers should be prepared for the Breakfast Club being closed.

Please do not call the school, if you do not hear that we are closed by website, text, or dojo then you should assume we are open.

Please make sure mobile phone numbers and email addresses are up-to-date in school as class dojo, text messages will be sent out whenever possible. Information will also be posted on the School's Facebook page.

School Closure Procedure

- 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 that will be considered will include the number of staff who can get into the school, the health & safety of the site, and the 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 class dojo, text and Facebook.
- Our website and Facebook will be updated during adverse weather conditions at www.district.st-helens.sch.uk. Information will also be posted to the St Helens Council website at www.sthelens.gov.uk. If you have internet access, please use this method of accessing updates.

- Where possible a member of staff will be in school to advise parents/carers and families on arrival that the school is closed and to answer telephone calls from concerned parents.

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/Carers will then be advised when they can collect their child.
- The school will remain open until home time. However, if parents/carers are delayed due to adverse weather conditions, if possible, contact the school office to give an anticipated arrival time. Parents of children who attend after-school clubs may be asked to pick their child up at the normal finish time of 3:15 pm or as soon as possible thereafter. Children will be supervised until a parent/carer is able to collect them.
- Parents must duly consider their own safety and the safety of others. The children at The District will be cared for until it is possible for them to be collected.

Staff

It is recognised that adverse weather conditions will, at times, make travel to and from work difficult. However, employees are expected to make all reasonable efforts to reach their workplace. In event of closure, staff will be informed accordingly.

Useful Information

School information:

Website: www.district.st-helens.sch.uk.

Contact number: 01744 678250

Local Authority information:

Website: www.sthelens.gov.uk

Contact number: 01744 676789