

ADVERSE WEATHER POLICY

1. As a School we are aware that a number of children and staff have to travel quite some distance to get to School, some live very close within walking distance and others are resident on Campus. On occasions severe weather may make travel to and or from School difficult for some children and staff.
2. As a Boarding community the School will not close unless it suffers a serious interruption to one of its major services that would make it unhygienic or unsafe to operate (such as a major interruption to its power supply).
3. Any pupil or member of staff who can *safely* get to School should do so. If the severe weather (such as significant ice or snowfall) looks set to continue or worsen during the day parents and staff should also bear in mind the journey back home. If they are in any doubt then we would fully understand them not setting out for School.
4. On days where travel is significantly disrupted we may not operate a normal timetable, depending on how many staff and children from each year group are able to attend.
 - 4.1 Classes may be combined and an alternative programme may be devised. Where possible we will endeavour to run a programme as close to the normal timetable as possible.
5. On occasions when the weather starts to deteriorate during the course of a School day parents may decide that they would like their child to return home earlier than the normal end of the School day.
 - 5.1 In the case of younger children parents may want to collect their child and with older children they may wish to give permission for their child to leave school early by independent means.
 - 5.2 In any event it is vital that parents contact the School to let us know.
 - 5.3 It is also vital that the pupil signs out at the normal signing out points in the Nursery, Junior and Senior Schools.
6. Boarders will of course remain in residence (like the School itself Boarding houses will not close) and any day child who needs overnight accommodation because of travel problems will of course be accommodated.
7. If for some reason (and it would only ever be the case in the event of a significant disruption such as fire or flood) the School needed to close during the course of the School day parents would be informed **by the School**.
 - 7.1 On some occasions in the past the odd pupil has made an independent bid for freedom by calling their parents to say that we are closing – it's always best to check such stories with the School, we've never yet closed!
8. Regular updates are shown on our website and we will also email parents with regular bulletins about any disruption to the school day and other associated activities (such as parent evenings)
9. As in everything we do our priority is the safety of our community. If you are concerned about travel safety then we would advise you not to travel. Ultimately we recognise that only you can make this judgement and whatever you decide we will be understanding and supportive.

Richard Palmer
Head

Reviewed October 2015