



Severe Weather Policy
Non-statutory Policy
Last updated November 2025

We will endeavour to keep our school open and operating as normal. However, in the event of severe, adverse weather it may be necessary to make a decision to close the school for the safety of the children and staff.

The decision to close the school will be made by the headteacher in consultation with the Chair of Directors considering 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, safety and well-being of pupils, staff, pupils, parents and families.

School Attendance

The 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 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 school of the circumstances of this exceptional situation, as the school has a duty to clarify the circumstances of each case so as to be able to formally authorise the absence to the Local Authority. Parents acting on the assumption that the school would be closed without gaining confirmation or failing to inform the school of the

circumstances that prevent the child coming into school risks their child being registered as an unauthorised absence. Staff will always make every reasonable effort to undertake the journey to school. It is appreciated that the journey may take longer than normal and therefore some staff may not be able to arrive before the normal start of the school day. It may be necessary to ask all children to bring packed lunches if the kitchen staff are unable to reach school safely.

We will clear and mark paths to be used within school to make access as safe as possible, and we will keep supplies of salt/grit to support this. Care is always needed when using pathways that have been gritted and cleared.

Communication with Parents/Carers

In the event of bad weather, parents should check to see if the school is open before travelling to the site. There are a number of ways to confirm whether the school is open or closed. The school will send out a communication to parents via Text messaging (please ensure that you keep Admin informed of new contact details), Dojo messaging and it will be posted on the school website.

Please do not phone the school. If you don't hear we are closed, assume we are open!

Parents/Carers should also listen for the list of school closures on **Radio Humberside**. Once a decision has been made to shut the school, the Local Authority will be notified. If the school is to close, we will try and make a decision as early as possible and will intend to re-open as soon as we can.

School closure during normal working hours

If the school does open, but extreme weather develops during the day, we will aim to remain open until the end of the normal school day. However, this is not always possible when roads are becoming dangerous. In these extreme circumstances, parents will be contacted via text messaging service and Dojo messaging to collect their children as soon as possible. The school will also communicate to parents/carers via our website. It is important that parents/carers **do not** attempt to make contact with the school before any decision has been made about closure and wait for a communication to be sent out. This is to ensure that phone lines are kept open for us to liaise with other schools and agencies.