



Rushton CE (VC) Primary School

Happy Learning Together

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.

In the event of adverse weather, consideration will be given to:

- State of pathways, steps and slopes around the school
- Condition of roads and pathways in the local area
- If the school's heating, lighting and water is working correctly
- Whether catering can be provided
- Availability of public transport and school coaches
- Weather forecast

The chair of governors will be consulted as part of this process. The closure will be recorded on the Learning Platform by the Head teacher.

The headteacher will add details of the school closure to the Staffordshire website as soon as possible. The media (BBC Radio Stoke) will transmit the details – they take their information from the website.

Parents should check the school's website AND the Staffordshire website.

www.rushton.staffs.sch.uk

www.staffordshire.gov.uk/schoolclosures

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 and/or make themselves aware of the radio broadcasts when it is clear that a closure is a possibility.

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 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 prevents the child coming into school risks their child being registered as an unauthorised absence.

Where the school is officially closed, all absence is counted as authorised absence.

In the event of the school having to close during the day due to unforeseen worsening weather or similar unforeseen circumstances, parents will be contacted by phone either at home or work and asked to collect their children. Such an early release will only be contemplated in very extreme circumstances. A group text will be sent to parents who have registered their mobile number with the school.

In the event of snow some pathways will be cleared and salted. Before and after school opening hours parents are responsible for ensuring their children do not slide on the school playground.

During adverse weather conditions the playground may be out of bounds, if necessary at break times.

In the Head teacher's absence the senior teacher on site will assume responsibility for making all decisions.

Approved by Governors

Date/...../.....

Review Date/...../.....