



ADVERSE WEATHER PROCEDURES

ICY CONDITIONS

In icy conditions, school staff will endeavour to salt or grit the main pathways before 8:30am. Parents dropping off at Breakfast Club should be aware that in all probability, paths will not be salted or gritted by this time, so great care should be taken. **Parents, children and visitors should be aware that pathways, even where cleared, do remain dangerous: please assess the risk yourself prior to using the paths.**

Paths will be salted or gritted, from the car park gates up to the Year 5/6 door (adjacent to the external store) and to the School Office. This door will be open and all pupils should come directly into the school on arrival from 8:30am. Parents are responsible for ensuring their children do not slide on the school grounds before and after school opening hours. Unfortunately, the school does not have the capacity to clear vehicle routes.

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. Where families are cut off but the school is still open, parents should inform the school of the circumstances of this exceptional situation.

Please note that if ice has formed on the 'jellybean' in the main playground we ask that no adults or children stand on any part of it, as it must be left to defrost naturally.

SCHOOL CLOSURE

It is the policy of the school to make every effort to remain open whenever possible as long as it is safe to do so.

The decision to close the school either before or during the school day will be made by the Head Teacher. The school will only be closed if one or more of the following conditions apply:

- Insufficient staff are able to come in to keep the school running safely.
- Conditions on site are dangerous.
- Conditions are considered to be or are anticipated to later become too hazardous for travel.
- Failure of key services within school such as heating and school lunches.

If the school is to close:

1. We will endeavour to alert you by at least one of these methods by 7:15am:

- www.dorsetforyou.com
- school website
- text messaging service
- announcement on Heart FM (102.3)

2. 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, the safety of pupils and staff is paramount.

3. The School will no longer notify local radio stations. Dorset County Council's communications unit will notify the local media and that a definitive list of school closures can be found on www.dorsetforyou.com
Local radio stations will still carry information about closures but information can also be accessed on www.mapping.dorsetforyou.com/closedservices

4. 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 via text message and a phone call either at home or work and asked to collect their child/ren. Such an early release will only be contemplated in very extreme circumstances. During these times, all parents/carers are urged to ensure that mobile phones are always switched on and audible in case we are trying to contact you.

5. Should the need arise to close the school, Breakfast Club and After School Club services will also be closed.

Next Review: September 2021