

# Adverse Weather Policy

## Little Acorns School



**Approved by:**

Alison Neal

**Date:** 09/01/24

**Last reviewed on:**

January 2024

**Next review due by:**

January 2025

## **Introduction**

The school will make every effort to remain open whenever possible.

The decision to close the school will be made by the Head Teacher.

The school will only be closed if one or more of the following conditions apply.

1. Insufficient staff are able to come in to keep the school running safely.
2. Conditions on site are dangerous.
3. Conditions are considered to be or are anticipated to later become too hazardous to travel.

In the absence of the Head Teacher decisions regarding opening and closure will be made by the Deputy Head Teacher

## **In the Event of Heavy Snow Before the School Day Starts**

### Parents

1. If it is decided that the school will open, but the road conditions are difficult, parents should ring the school to advise that taxi's may be arriving late.
2. If parents assume that the school is closed, but it is actually open, the absence will be recorded as unauthorised unless the Head Teacher is satisfied that there are exceptional circumstances (whereby you are cut off due to particular difficulties in your area for example)

### The School

1. The Head Teacher will decide whether the school will open taking into account the conditions at the school and the ability of staff to get there. This decision will be made by **7am**.
2. If the Head Teacher decides the school will close she will send a text message to staff and email all parents advising them of the closure. She will also post this as an update to the School Story on Dojo. Parents who have not responded by 7:30 will be called. The School fully appreciates that in bad weather children may arrive later than usual.
3. If the school is open please ensure children have appropriate warm clothing, including hats, gloves and wellies.
4. Outside therapies eg Equine Therapy will be canceled if deemed too dangerous to attend.

## **In the Event of Heavy Snowfall during the School day**

- 1 If there is heavy snowfall during the school day the Head Teacher will decide whether it is necessary to close the school.
- 2 She will contact parents by email and, if necessary telephone, and ask that they pick their child/children up from school as soon as possible. She will call taxi companies to see whom can have taxi's home for parents whom do not drive.
- 3 The Staff that live furthest from the school will be permitted to leave at the earliest opportunity.
- 4 A skeleton staff will remain in school until all of the children have been collected.

5 If a parent rings requesting they pick their child up early due to the weather, and the decision has not been made to close the school, the Head Teacher will decide how the absence will be recorded.

### **Wet Breaks**

1. The Head Teacher or Deputy Head will decide if the weather is bad enough for a 'wet' break.

2 If a wet break is declared no children must be left unsupervised. One member of staff (Teacher or Teaching Assistant) should remain in the classroom to supervise break with all children remaining in their own classes.

### **In the Event of Extreme Heat**

1. Where the Met Office issues warnings for extreme heat, please ensure children come to school with water bottles, sun cream and sun hats.

The school will email changes in uniform, whereby thinner, cooling clothing may be worn. The school will have fans turned on and keep the children in the shade where possible.

In the case of a Red Weather Warning, the Head Teacher will alert parents as previously described by 7am for closures.

### **Red Weather Warnings**

Where the Met Office issues Red Weather Warnings, the school will be closed.

