

Dear parent/carer

Given the plummeting temperatures and potential snow fall, I am writing to outline the arrangements should there be heavy snow fall.

During poor weather we want to ensure first and foremost that children, their families and staff travel to school safely. We must also ensure that we are able to keep children safe while they are in school. School will always try to stay open in poor weather and staff are committed to ensuring they provide good learning experiences for your child, even when the weather is dreadful. As well as trudging through the snow to get here!

If school closes it will be for one of the following reasons:

- The school site is inaccessible/unsafe
- School is unable to provide hot meals
- There is an issue with the heating/water
- We do not have the correct adult to pupil ratios
- We do not have first aiders
- We have no staff with identified responsibility for Safeguarding

As a guideline if buses stop running it is likely that school would be closed.

If the decision is taken to close school you will be notified by text no later than 7.30am. If you use the Expressions app please ensure that you are able to receive notifications. As always please ensure school have your upto date contact details. **If you do not hear by 7.30am please assume that school is open.** Please then decide if it is safe to travel to school with your child. Sometimes we may open later to allow for safe travel for staff and children; if this is the case this will be detailed in the text message. In extreme cases there may be a decision to close school and not open late; parents will be notified by a further text message no later than 9am.

If there is snow during the day whilst the children are at school, we will **not** send any child home alone. In extreme circumstances we may text to ask that you come to school to pick your child up. It is imperative that you collect you child as soon as possible; this enables us to send staff home safely and avoids us asking for overnight accommodation with families!

Please avoid ringing school to check if we are open as the phone lines may be needed for emergencies. Please do ring and leave a message if you are unable to come to school that day because of dangerous travel.

Above all we want children, families and staff to be safe so ask for your support and help over the coming days and weeks.

TO HELP US FOCUS ON MAKING THE SITE SAFE, PLEASE ASSUME ONLY THE GATE ON FURNISS AVENUE IS OPEN AT THE START OF THE DAY

