

Learning is fun at

# Park Hill Infants' School



## ADVERSE WEATHER CONDITIONS

VERSION 1.0

JANUARY 2019

### SNOW AND ICE

In the event of severe weather conditions, we have to consider key issues to make judgements about school closure. Closing the school is the very last option for us:

- We have to weigh up many different risks regarding travelling to school, site safety and pupil supervision on site. Maintaining the level of learning is extremely important, but we have to balance that against the risks to our pupils and staff.
- We will liaise closely with our local transport companies and senior staff in neighbouring schools. We will monitor local weather reports and liaise with our staff members in outlying areas to assess the travel conditions that might be affecting those who come to school by car and bus.
- We will assess if we have sufficient numbers of staff on site to allow us to effectively supervise 270 pupils.
- We know that for working parents when the school has to close this presents problems with regard to childcare, so the decision will not be taken lightly.

### **To keep you informed:**

- We will send a text message to all parents and staff if we are unable to open and will do this as soon (by 7:00am or 2:30pm depending on the situation), as we can make a reasonable assessment of the conditions.
- We will contact Parents/Carers via text message and the school website. We will also update LGfL Opencheck (<https://opencheck.atomwide.com/>)
- If the school remains open during bad weather, as a parent you should make the decision, based on your journey, about whether or not you feel it is safe to bring your child to school. If your children's absence / lateness is specifically due to travel problems caused by the bad weather, we can record this accordingly.

### Entry to and from School

- We intend for the school to remain open, however if there is considerable snow, entry and exit to the school may be restricted as follows:
- **All pupils** - Enter the school via the gate to the school office, in Cotelands. All pupils should wait in the usual areas. Parents are asked to keep their child by their side to prevent any unnecessary accidents.

- Children may wear wellington boots/walking shoes to school, but should have their school shoes with them to change into when at school
- At the end of the school day please can parents avoid congregating around the gates as this delays the children being able to leave the premises safely.
- **Pedestrian visitors** - The pathway from Cotelands to the school reception/office will be made safe for any visitors on foot.
- **Vehicle access (staff, deliveries etc)** – If you have permission to drive on site you may do so, but at your own risk.

### School closure during the school day

- Parents will be notified via text or the School website of early closure. We will also update LGfL Opencheck. (<https://opencheck.atomwide.com/>)
- Any change to the normal collection points for children when closing early will be detailed within the text communication and posted on the website.

### EXTREME HEAT

Sometimes the temperature during the school day will increase to a notifiable level. If this occurs, the school will take the following actions but we will not close the school for this type of weather condition:

- If it is a projected weather warning, children will be asked to come into school wearing sun hats, sun cream and will be encouraged to drink lots of water throughout the day.
- Playtimes and break times maybe shortened to minimise the time the children are out in the heat.
- The staff will keep the school ventilated by leaving windows open, and using the air conditioning in the classes where it is available.

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