



Policy for Adverse Weather Conditions

It is the policy of the academy to make every effort to remain open whenever possible.

The decision to close the academy either before or during the school day will be made by the Principal. The academy 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 for travel.

If the school is to close:

1. The principal will make arrangements for the closure, details will be recorded on the Academy website and the Local Authority website.
The media (BBC Radio Lincolnshire, BBC Radio Humberside) will be informed and will broadcast details.
2. Parents who have opted into the scheme will be alerted to the closure using the Text Message service, activated by the Principal once the closure has been logged with Oasis and the LA. Parents will also be notified through our facebook page and on our website.
3. The academy 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, facebook and/or make themselves aware of the radio broadcasts when it is clear that closure is a possibility.
4. There is no reason why children should arrive late due to adverse weather. Parents acting on the assumption that the academy will be closed without gaining confirmation, or failing to inform the academy of the circumstance that prevents their child coming to school, risk their child being registered as an unauthorised absence.
5. Where the academy is officially closed, all absence is counted as authorised absence.
6. In the event of the academy having to close during the day due to unforeseen worsening weather or similar unforeseen circumstances, parents will be contacted by text or phone either at home or work and be asked to collect their child/ren. Such an early release will only be contemplated in very extreme circumstances.

7. In the event of snow some pathways will be cleared and salted. Parents, children and visitors will be made aware that pathways, even when cleared, do remain dangerous. Children will also be reminded of this in assembly. Before and after school opening hours parents are responsible for ensuring their children do not slide on the school playground.

In icy conditions the caretakers will salt wide pathways as follows:

- A) from the main entrance gates on Henderson Avenue and Spencer Avenue (Gate 2) around the academy building
- B) from the car park entrance gate to the main office entrance
- C) entrances into each ground floor classroom

Where necessary, essential pathways will be maintained as clear as possible throughout the day.

On school days where the school is closed to pupils, the pathways will still be maintained during snow and icy weather on a daily basis by the caretakers, so as to keep the pathways clear and prevent build-up of ice and snow.

8. During adverse weather conditions the playground may be out of bounds to parents and children at the beginning and end of school and, if the Principal decides it necessary, during break times as well.
9. In the Principal's absence members of the Academy Leadership Team on site will assume responsibility for making all decisions relating to the Adverse Weather Policy.

Produced: January 2017
Author: C. Lloyd
Next review: January 2019