



Severe Weather Plan 2023-2024- A Guide for Families

Severe weather is classified as weather conditions which have an impact on service delivery. This weather may include heavy snow, black ice, fog, floods, extreme heat or strong winds.

In the event of severe weather

In the event of ice or snow, as much as practically possible, rock salt will be spread on the paths around the school grounds.

If necessary parents will be notified via text message and Facebook advising them of a safe route to access the school and classrooms. For their own safety, Parents and children must stick to the cleared, gritted pathways.

If staff are delayed getting into school, as a consequence of severe weather, upon their arrival at 8:45am the children will be taken into the hall to read, watch a film or do an activity, where they will be supervised by staff members. Once the appropriate number of teaching staff have arrived, the children will be sent to their classrooms for learning as usual.

Playtimes - whether play is indoor or outdoor will be made by the most senior member of staff on site. Please ensure that your child attends school wearing clothing appropriate for the weather:

- Cold, ice, snow: a warm coat, hat, scarf, gloves, wellington boots and a change of shoes to wear in school.
- Hot and sunny weather: light clothing and a sun hat. Please ensure that your child attends school with a water bottle and that sun cream is applied before school.

School finish times will remain the same (3:15pm). If a decision is made to close the school early because of adverse weather, parents will be notified by text message and by phone. Staff members will remain at school with the children until they have all been safely collected by an adult. Please note that the school's dismissal and collection practices will remain in place for safeguarding purposes.

In the event of a school closure due to extreme or severe weather

The decision to close the school is with the Headteacher and the Chair of Governors; who will make the decision in accordance with guidance from the Local Authority.

Please note that the Headteacher and Chair of Governors will only make a decision to close the school when the state of the weather makes it absolutely necessary in the best interests of the children.

Parents will be advised of a school closure as early as practically possible using the following methods of communication: Facebook, text message, school phone and website.

Parents will be advised as soon as practically possible regarding the plans for the following day. A message will be communicated using Facebook and text message advising parents/carers if the school is to open the following day or remain closed.

If there are any safeguarding concerns whilst the school is closed, please contact the Rochdale Safeguarding Board on 0300 303 400