

18th November 2024

Snow/Adverse Weather Conditions Procedure



As we are entering into the wintery period, I thought it would be appropriate to update you on the snow/adverse weather conditions procedures. The health & safety of your child is of paramount importance to all the staff here at Squirrel Hayes First School. **Any decision taken to close the school due to snow or dangerous weather conditions will be considered very carefully following health and safety guidance.** A risk assessment is undertaken with a variety of issues being considered such as:

- State of pathways, steps and slopes around the school
- Condition of roads and pathways in the local area
- Ability of staff to get into school to operate at safe staffing levels
- If the school's heating, lighting and water is working correctly
- Whether catering can be provided
- Availability of public transport
- Weather forecast

If the school has to be closed due to health & safety reasons surrounding snow or adverse weather conditions then you will be informed as soon as possible through the following:

- Text message on your mobile
- Message on the school's website
- Message on the Staffordshire school's website (www.staffordshire.gov.uk/education/schoolsandcolleges/emergencyclosures)
- Parents can also sign up to the county council's [alert system](#) which links into the above process to alert parents of their specific closures via text and email.
https://apps2.staffordshire.gov.uk/scc/customeralerts/?_gl=1*gov0im*_ga*NzM3OTgyODk2LjE2OTM4OTk4NzY.*_ga_L5SP43WS7L*MTcwNTQwNDU2OS40My4xLjE3MDU0MDc3MDAuMC4wLjA.
- Announcement on the local radio stations (BBC Radio Stoke, Signal Radio + signals website www.signal1.co.uk)
- Notice on the school gates - (where possible)

This school is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people/vulnerable adults and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment.



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If an emergency closure is made during the day you will be required to come and collect your child from school and will be informed about where to collect your child/children from.

The school's planned Risk Assessment for this process includes the following collection points:

- Early Years from the Main Door at the Early Years Block
- Year 1 / 2 (Hydra) & Year 3 / 4 (Draco) from the Main Reception

If any changes have to be made to these collection points, you will be informed by a text message.

Please do not phone the school to see if the school is closing, this will only jam up the phone lines and prevent us from making emergency calls or contacting the relevant bodies to inform them of school closure. We do not take the decision to close schools lightly and will be considering the safety of all if a closure is needed.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs E. J. Pickford (Headteacher) & Team

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