

Altrincham C. E. Primary School

Snow Policy and Bad Weather Policy.

MISSION STATEMENT

To work in partnership with parents and the churches, to nurture children in the Christian faith and to provide them with the best possible educational opportunities.

In the event of disruption caused by heavy snow the prime concern of the school must always be the safety of the pupils and staff.

- If heavy snow falls overnight and continues into the following day, parents are asked to observe the following procedures. The decision as to whether or not to send a pupil to school must be at the discretion of the parents, taking into account factors such as local road conditions and the availability of child-care.
- Whilst we will endeavour to ensure that the school keeps running as normal during any periods of bad weather there may be occasions where we are unable to open the school.
- The decision to close the school in the event of bad weather will be made in the interests of the health & safety of all concerned by the Chair of Governors and the Head teacher.

The decision to close will be taken on consideration of information gathered from local conditions of the roads around the school, advisories from local weather channels, and the Local Authority. This decision will not necessarily be in line with other local schools in the area.

In this instance we shall notify, as soon as we are able, using the text messaging service and we also ask that you listen to BBC Radio Manchester on 95.1FM – 104.6FM – DAB Digital Radio – www.bbc.co.uk/radiomanchester or through the BBC iPlayer Radio app on a mobile or tablet device. The BBC will read out closure information at regular intervals. The BBC presenters will clearly signpost when the information will be broadcast.

- Members of staff are asked to make every effort to get to school although, again in severe conditions, they must make a judgement about the safety of travelling.
- The school will post updates on the school website (<http://altrinchamceprimarieschool.co.uk>) to provide information of the situation. In particular parents will be advised as to whether or not the school is open to operate a normal timetable, depending on the number of staff and pupils available.
- Where possible and practicable, an automated phone message will be generated by the school to provide an update.
- When ice or snow hamper movement around the School, in order to minimise the risk of injury to staff, pupils and parents, the caretaker will ensure that all paths and steps around the school site are gritted or cleared of snow as soon as is practicable.
- Prior to pupils being allowed to play outside in the grounds they will be warned by their teachers not to throw snowballs near windows, not to make slides on footpaths and to take extra care when playing in the snow. Pupils will only play outside under the supervision of an authorised member of staff.

Appendix 1

Snow Policy and Procedures - Information for Parents.

In the event of disruption caused by heavy snow the prime concern of the school must always be the safety of the pupils and staff.

- If heavy snow falls overnight and continues into the following day, parents are asked to observe the following procedures. The decision as to whether or not to send a pupil to school, however, must be at the discretion of the parents, taking into account factors such as local road conditions and the availability of child-care.
- The decision to close the school will take account of the safety of all our pupils and staff, some of whom travel a great distance to school each day.
- Under these circumstances, and if parents are concerned, they are welcome to collect their children early. As telephone lines can become extremely busy at such times, parents must call into the School Office to sign children out.
- If at all possible, parents are advised that it is better to avoid bringing vehicles into Townfield Road, as the road can become treacherous in snowy conditions
- Children should not bring cycles or scooters to school to help reduce risks for themselves and others.
- To provide parents with information during the day, updated information will be placed on the school website (<http://altrinchamceprimaryschool.co.uk>).

Appendix 2

Snow Policy and Procedures - Information for Teaching and Support Staff

In the event of disruption caused by heavy snow the prime concern of the school must always be the safety of the pupils and staff.

- The decision to close the school in the event of bad weather will be made in the interests of the health & safety of all concerned by the Chair of Governors and the Head teacher. In the event of severe weather, a decision to close the school will be made as soon as possible.
- It is expected that all staff will make every reasonable effort to undertake the journey to school. It is appreciated that the journey may take longer than normal and therefore some staff may not be able to arrive before the normal start of school time.
- The Head Teacher will contact the Office Manager, Site Manager, Chair of Governors, Trafford Council and the Senior Management Team.
- Information will also be placed on the homepage of the school's website, which we would ask staff as well as parents to check (<http://altrinchamceprimaryschool.co.uk>)
- On arrival teaching staff should report to the Head Teacher or a senior member of staff as appropriate.
- Once the school is open, we will aim to remain open until the end of the normal school day.
- As always during snowy conditions, staff members are asked to be careful when driving to school, especially when approaching the school site.

School Governors' Equality Statement:

Race, disability, gender, religious beliefs and sexual orientation equality are included as an explicit aim in all of the School's policies and key documents.

EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES/ INCLUSION

The School Mission Statement requires the School to examine the values transmitted, either intentionally or unintentionally, to pupils and to ensure that the curriculum, organisation, ethos and attitudes provide all pupils with equal opportunity for educational achievement. The Governing Body will therefore seek to ensure that all pupils in the school have equal access to a broad and balanced curriculum and that the specific needs of pupils are met to ensure equality of access.

The practices and procedures followed are as outlined in the school policies on Equal Opportunities and School Inclusion. This includes planning to meet the needs of both boys and girls, children with special educational needs (SEN), children who are more able, children with disabilities, children from all social, cultural and religious backgrounds, children of different ethnic groups including, and children from diverse linguistic backgrounds.

The school strives to provide a safe environment, free from harassment and discrimination, in which children's contributions are valued and where racial, religious, disability and gender stereotypes are challenged.

Policy agreed.....date

Signature of Head teacher.....

Signature of Chair of School Governors.....