

Osborne Primary



Believe to achieve

SEVERE WEATHER POLICY

Consultation with Staff:

Adopted by Governing Body: 18.05.15

Review date:

We will endeavour to keep our school open and operating as normal. However, in the event of severe, adverse weather it may be necessary to make a decision to close the school for the safety of the children and staff.

This action will follow the Emergency Closure of Schools: Arrangements in the event of extreme weather conditions from Birmingham Local Authority (October 14)

The decision to close will be made by the head teacher in consultation with the chair of governors considering the following:

- Health and Safety - will remaining open constitute a significant risk to pupils and/or Staff?
- Availability of staff - has the severe weather meant that a significant number of staff have been unable to attend making it impossible to open?

Our first priority will always be to ensure the health, safety and wellbeing of pupils, staff, parents and families.

Where practical, we will consider opening later in order to enable staff and children to have additional time to travel to school safely.

We will clear paths within school to make access as safe as possible, and will keep supplies of grit to support this. Care is always needed when using pathways that have been gritted to ensure safety.

School Closure Procedure:

As soon as a decision has been made school will:

- communicate this decision to Birmingham Local Authority
- inform parents and staff via our text service (Groupcall) and post a headline message on the school website at (www.osborneprimaryschool.co.uk)
- School closure and regular updates will be read out on
 - BBC Radio West Midlands (96.5 FM)
 - Heart FM (100.7 FM) and
 - Free Radio (96.4 FM)
- Closures will also be listed on the websites of the radio stations at
 - <http://www.bbc.co.uk/wm>
 - www.heart.co.uk
 - www.freeradio.co.uk/birmingham

Parents and staff will be informed that this is the procedure to be followed in the event of adverse weather conditions.

Informing staff

It is recognised that adverse weather conditions will, at times, make travel to and from work difficult. However, employees are expected to make all reasonable efforts to reach their workplace. In the event of closure, staff will be informed by text (Groupcall) and e-mail and will receive daily updates, being notified directly by text when school is to reopen.