



Thorpepark

ADVERSE WEATHER POLICY

Date policy reviewed: October 2017

Date approved by Governing body: 8th November 2017

Previously approved by the Governing Body: 7th February 2017

Person responsible for this policy: Britta Dickinson-Fry

VERSION V1.0

Adverse Weather

Introduction

The Academy will make every effort to remain open whenever possible.

The decision to close the Academy will be made by the Head of School. 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 Academy running safely.
2. Conditions on site are dangerous
3. Conditions are considered to be or are anticipated to later become too hazardous to travel.

In the Event of heavy snow before the Academy day starts

Parents

When Academy closure is a possibility parents should find out whether the Academy is open by:-

Checking the Academy website: www.thorpepark.hull.sch.uk

Listening to Radio Humberside (**Frequency:** 95.9 FM) and Viking radio (**Frequency:** 96.9 FM or KCFM (**Frequency:** 99.8 FM)

If it is decided that the Academy will open, but the road conditions are difficult, parents should ring the Academy to advise that they are likely to be late.

If parents assume that the Academy is closed, but it is actually open, the absence will be recorded as unauthorised unless the Head of School is satisfied that there are exceptional circumstances.

The Academy

The Head of School will decide whether the Academy will open taking into account the conditions at the Academy and the ability of staff to get there.

If the Head of School decides the Academy will close he/she will update the Academy website accordingly and send a message to staff and parents via the local radio stations advising them of the closure.

It is important for parents to look at the website or listen to the radio for any updates.

The Academy fully appreciates that in bad weather children may arrive later than usual.

If there are adverse weather conditions in the morning the Head of School can allow parents to bring their children into the main halls to wait for Academy to begin at 8.45am. In this instance all parents and children must enter the Academy through the

usual doors. **Whilst waiting in the hall all parents must supervise their own children.**

Exceptional Circumstances

The Academy recognises that there may be cases where families are “cut off” due to particular difficulties in the area in which they live.

In such cases parents should advise the Head of School of their particular circumstances so s/he can justify to the Local Governing Body why the absence should be approved.

In the event of heavy snowfall during the Academy day

If there is heavy snowfall during the Academy day the Head of School will decide whether it is necessary to close the Academy.

The Office will contact parents and ask that they pick their child/children up from Academy as soon as possible. **It is imperative that all contact details are kept up to date with the Academy office.**

The staff that live furthest from the Academy will be permitted to leave at the earliest opportunity.

A skeleton staff will remain in Academy until all of the children have been collected.

If a parent rings requesting they pick their child up early due to the weather, and the decision has not been made to close the Academy, these requests will be considered on an individual basis by the Head of School.

Wet Morning Breaks

The Head of School will decide if the weather is bad enough for a “wet break”.

If a wet break is declared no children must be left unsupervised. One member of staff (Teacher or Teaching Assistant) should remain in the classroom to supervise break with all children remaining in their own classes.

Members of staff who stay in the classroom during the wet break can take a break once lessons have resumed.

Wet Lunchtimes

The Head of School will decide if the weather is bad enough for a “wet” lunchtime.

If a wet lunchtime is declared no children must be left unsupervised.

The Lunchtime Child Support Officers with the support of Teacher and Teaching Assistants will supervise the children in the Halls and their individual classrooms in accordance with the rota.