



# **THORPEPARK ACADEMY**

## **ADVERSE WEATHER POLICY**



1	Summary	<b>Adverse weather</b>		
2	Responsible person	Britta Dickinson-Fry		
3	Accountable SLT member	Britta Dickinson-Fry and Caroline Knight		
4	Applies to	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> All staff <input type="checkbox"/> Support staff <input type="checkbox"/> Teaching staff		
5	Who has overseen development of this policy	Britta Dickinson-Fry		
6	Who has been consulted and recommended policy for approval	Executive Principal and governors		
7	Approved by and date	Governors, September 2025		
8	Version number	5		
9	Available on	Every	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Y <input type="checkbox"/> N	Trust website <input type="checkbox"/> Y <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N Academy website <input type="checkbox"/> Y <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N SharePoint <input type="checkbox"/> Y <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N
10	Related documents (if applicable)			
11	Disseminated to	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Trustees/governors <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> All staff <input type="checkbox"/> Support staff <input type="checkbox"/> Teaching staff		
12	Date of implementation (when shared)	September 2025		
13	Consulted with recognised trade unions	<input type="checkbox"/> Y <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N		



## 1. Introduction

Care must be taken whilst moving around the site in poor weather conditions as surfaces may be slippery.

The decision to close the Academy will be made by the Executive Principal or Executive Headteacher. 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.

## 2. Definition of adverse weather

Adverse weather is weather bad enough to affect the normal running of the school during term time.

## 3. Implementation of this policy

This plan will be implemented when a member of the school's Critical Incident Management Team is notified of an incident, considers that it is necessary to take action and considers that suitable action cannot be taken without triggering the co-ordination arrangements contained in this plan.

### Adverse Weather

#### **In the Event of heavy snow before the Academy day starts**

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

Checking the Academy website: <https://thorpeparkacademy.org.uk/>

**Listening to Radio Humberside Frequency:** 95.9 FM), DAB 10D, Freeview 713 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 Executive Principal is satisfied that there are exceptional circumstances.

#### **The Academy**

The Executive Principal will decide whether the Academy, both Thorpepark main site and McMillan at Thorpepark will open taking into account the conditions at the Academy and the ability of staff to get there.

If the Executive Principal 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. All children arriving late must report to the office.

If there are adverse weather conditions in the morning the Executive Principal can allow parents to bring their children into the main hall to wait for Academy to begin. 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 Executive Principal 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 Executive Principal will decide whether it is necessary to close the Academy.

The Offices 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 Executive Principal.

### **Wet Morning Breaks**

The Executive Principal or Deputy Principal 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 Achievement Support 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 Executive Principal or Deputy Principal will decide if the weather is bad enough for a “wet” lunchtime.

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

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

**Reviewed every two years.**