



Adverse Weather Policy

Status	Recommended
Audience	Parents and Pupils
Issued	September 2016

**KNOWSLEY PARK SCHOOL
ADVERSE WEATHER POLICY**

Policy Approved: September 2016
Implementation Date: September 2016

INTRODUCTION

This policy sets out to ensure the safety of our students and staff in the event of adverse weather conditions. 'Adverse weather' covers conditions such as snow, ice, fog, floods which render it difficult to make journeys by road, by both public and private transport. 'Extremely hazardous' is defined as those conditions in which the police and/or appropriate motoring organisations advise people not to make unnecessary journeys or indeed travel at all.

THE POLICY – OVERVIEW

All staff and students are expected to make a genuine effort to report to the school at the recognised start time, which could entail having to make special arrangements to ensure that they can attend each day which may mean not relying on their usual travel routes or modes of transport.

OBJECTIVES

All staff and students are expected to make a genuine effort to report to the school at the recognised start time, which could entail having to make special arrangements to ensure that they can attend each day which may mean not relying on their usual travel routes or modes of transport.

PROCEDURES

Every effort will be made to ensure the school remains open. In the event of ice and snow, by gritting key access and egress areas around the building. The school will liaise with its external partners – DNS, Cofely and LA Health and Safety to ensure that the site remains safe at all times. The Council will prioritise gritting of the main road network.

The Headteacher, in consultation with the Chair of Governors and Knowsley LA, will ultimately be responsible for deciding when to close and re-open the school if the need arises. In the event of the school having to close, staff will be informed and parents notified via School Communications (text messages / school website).

The school will only be closed if one or more of the following conditions apply:

1. Insufficient staff are able to come in to keep the school running safely.
2. Conditions on site are dangerous.
3. Conditions are considered to be or are anticipated to later become too hazardous for travel.

Advance planning

The Prescott School will

- ensure that staff are all aware of the relevant procedures
- ensure that all contact details for staff, pupils and parent is up to date
- review plans for dealing with above average levels of staff absence

KEY ROLES

Knowsley LA will publish updates via the LA website www.knowsley.gov.uk and the local media, and the school will be responsible for contacting parents and staff if the school is to be closed by e-mails and text messaging, and a daily message posted on the home page of the school website. The person responsible for this should be fully prepared and should consider testing the plan that is put in place.

This policy and its procedures is whole school and includes out of school care.

The school's website will display

- (1) Daily updates on the current status of the adverse weather
- (2) Arrangements to allow pupils to be able to continue with their academic work

Remaining open or Re-opening of the school following closure

The school's website will display information which will cover the arrangements for remaining open or the re-opening of the school following closure, text messages will inform parents of the reopening of the school. Such decisions will be based on the ability of the school to respond to the advice provided.

Consideration should be given to requests from staff to leave earlier than normal due to a long journey, or for those who may have to collect children from a school that has been closed. The Headteacher will need to consider these requests on a case by case basis depending on operational and individual needs.

REVIEW

The Reviewing of this policy will take place at the start of each academic year. The Schools reaction response to any adverse weather conditions will be evaluated and any amendments to this policy made as appropriate.

APPENDIX