St. Anne Line Catholic Junior School

Adverse Weather Plan

Adverse weather means that the school site is unsafe and poses health and safety risks to the school community. This adverse weather plan aims to maintain safe access across the school site as far as reasonably practical within the resources available.

In the event of disruption caused by adverse weather, the prime concern of the school must always be the safety of our pupils and staff. The following factors will be taken into consideration when deciding whether the school site is safe and remain open:

- Safety of the children.
- Safety of the site.
- Warmth of the site.
- Risk to staff/pupils travelling to the site.
- Met Officer forecasted conditions and UKHSA advise.
- Whether parents will be able to collect children.
- Numbers of teaching staff able to be on site.

Staff

We will always do our utmost to open the school in the event of bad weather if it is safe for us to do so. Staff will always endeavour to make every reasonable effort to undertake their normal journey to school. However, due to the distance that many of our staff have to travel, we cannot guarantee that they will all be able to arrive at their normal time or at all. If we have enough staff who are able to safely reach school to provide adequate cover for the classes, we will endeavour to remain open. However, timetables may be changed, classes mixed, and a different lunch menu may have to be provided.

Pupils and Parents

We understand that your journeys may also be disrupted, so we can be flexible with the registers and arrival times and of course the decision as to whether to send your child(ren) to school is at your discretion, taking into account factors such as local road conditions and your own welfare and safety. On any snowy day, there is a strong possibility that we may be unable to open Breakfast Club. Similarly, we cannot guarantee that The Hive After School Club will open on snowy days, and if there has been heavy snowfall during the day, you should expect that The Hive After School Club may have reduced hours or not open at all. We will of course communicate this to parents with as much notice as possible through the appropriate communication channel (see communication section).

Communication

The Head Teacher and Site Manager will assess the safety risks to staff and pupils. A decision will be taken by the Head Teacher/Chair of Governors as to whether the school will close. Following this, we will inform parents/carers in the following ways:

- The homepage of our school website: st-anneline-jun.uk
- Via announcements on our Instagram Page: **St Anne Line Juniors**
- Via a message to all parents and carers through our school ARBOR communication system.
- Via the Essex County Council Emergency School Closure Website.

Please note that the Essex County Council procedures for informing parents about school arrangements in the event of severe weather, any site issues or exceptional circumstances have changed. Closures will no longer be announced on the local radio stations and are only available through the link below:

Emergency school closures - Essex County Council