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## ADVERSE WEATHER CONDITIONS

During the winter months there are occasions when we can experience adverse weather conditions. It is always very difficult when we have snow and ice to determine how this will affect travel and I would ask that you follow the advice below if we experience any bad weather over the next few weeks.

We **expect** the school to remain open and staff will be here as normal, however, we feel you should be aware of the school policy and procedures to avoid confusion should severe weather conditions cause disruption. We will always try to make decisions affecting closure as early as possible, information will be updated from 7.30am on the school website and Heart FM is the local radio station that announces any school closures. We will also text you if the school is not going to be open so please make ensure that we have your up-to-date contact details.

### School Opening

- Children should be appropriately dressed with boots, hats, gloves and coat for bad weather. Children like to play in the snow and need to dress warmly so they can enjoy playtimes.
- The Head Teacher, following advice obtained locally, will make a decision based on conditions at school and the surrounding roads and footpaths as to whether it is safe to open the school.
- The proportion of staff that are not able to make it into school due to the weather can also impact on the decision.
- Parents are asked to note that it may not be possible for staff to answer the telephone and we would ask that you do not call before 8.00am. Listening to the local radio or checking the website for details of any closure is the preferred method of communication.

### During the school day

- Paths to main entrances will be gritted if a risk assessment indicates they are dangerous. Some entrances may be closed due to ice and extreme danger. Please look for signs. Playgrounds and other areas may not be gritted so please follow the advice on signs that will be placed around school and exercise caution.
- It may not be possible for children to use playgrounds during icy weather. A designated person will carry out a risk assessment and make appropriate arrangements to inform staff and children
- If the weather becomes severe during the day then parents may contact the school if they feel that they would like to collect their child early for safety reasons (i.e. traveling/walking long distances or collecting other children from local schools).
- The school will endeavor to remain open until the end of the school day; however, if parents are delayed due to the adverse weather conditions, they should contact the school as soon as possible to give an anticipated arrival time or to advise of alternative collection arrangements.
- Children will be supervised until a parent is able to collect them

We do hope this clarifies the policy for adverse weather conditions at Thorpe and we would ask that you keep this letter for future reference throughout the winter months. Thank you. As usual, it will be uploaded to our school website [www.thorpeprimary.co.uk](http://www.thorpeprimary.co.uk)

*K. Trethewy*

Mrs Trethewy  
Head Teacher

