

Dear Parents,

Although not wishing to tempt fate I thought it would be a good time to send out my annual reminder with regards to school emergency closure procedures.

Snow Closures

The decision to close the school due to snow is never easy and can, I appreciate, lead to frustration and inconvenience. This is especially true when you live locally and are able to walk with your child into school.

The decision to close the school largely rests on the ability to safely get sufficient teachers into school before 8:00am. Please be aware that the vast majority of teaching staff do not live in the surrounding area and have to depend upon roads being cleared enough to allow safe passage in the early morning.

In the event that I feel I cannot open the school, the decision to close the school will be shared with you in the following ways and as quickly as possible:

- The school website.
- Parentmail.
- Message on the school answer service.
- Essex emergency school closure page.

<http://www.essex.gov.uk/Education-Schools/Schools/Dates/Pages/Emergency-School-Closures.aspx>

If your child travels by bus the school will, in the event of a closure, inform the company.

In the event of a school closure the children will have optional work available on Google Classroom/Tapestry. However, we would always encourage the children to get outside and enjoy the rare occasion of playing in the snow.

If I am able to open the school, please be aware that all staff may not be present and nor would we expect all the children from surrounding areas to necessarily be able to make their way into school safely. I would also like everyone to know that if the occasion arises, school registration would stay open until 10:00am to enable you to slowly and safely make your way into school and prevent potentially dangerous congestion outside the school in icy conditions.



On snowy days we look forward to the opportunity to play with the children outside if possible. The children will need wellies/boots and suitable outdoor clothes. If they are not prepared, including a change of shoes, they will be unable to go outside.

Hopefully, now that I have reminded everyone of the procedures, there will be no need to close the school this winter.

Yours sincerely,



**Sarah Vass
Head Teacher**

