



# Kents Hill Junior School

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Head of Academy: Mrs H Alabaster

9<sup>th</sup> November 2017

Dear Parents/Carers

## Re. SEVERE WEATHER

Kents Hill Junior School will always make every effort to remain open in severe weather; however we are obliged to take several factors into account.

Our main difficulty is ensuring that we have sufficient teaching staff at the school in order for a full timetable to be taught. Our teachers commute into Benfleet from all over Essex, and we have to judge carefully whether they will be able to get to and from school safely.

We also have to take into account the conditions on the roads around the school and on the school site itself when evaluating the feasibility of remaining open and assessing the risk to you and your children.

If the school is closed due to snow we will advise parents through the following means:

- A text message will be sent to all those parents and carers who are registered with Parentmail advising of the situation;
- A message will be placed on our school website homepage information banner and School App;
- Via the Local Authority who will list the school as closed on their website:  
<http://www.essex.gov.uk/Education-Schools/Schools/Dates/Pages/Emergency-School-Closures.aspx>

We will always consult with other local schools before making a decision.

In the event of snow we have site staff who work tremendously hard to ensure that all entrances and paths are cleared and gritted where possible. The entrance to the school will be through the normal front gate which will be cleared as much as possible. All children will enter through the Year 3 doors. Children in Years 5 and 6 will proceed through the hall to their classrooms. The children will exit the school in the same way and not through the back of the school at all as we cannot guarantee that this will have been made safe. The back gate will be locked for this reason.

You can help by ensuring your children have appropriate footwear and that you exercise **extreme caution** when moving around the school site.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs H Alabaster  
Head of Academy

### **Learning ~ Friendship ~ Safety ~ Success**

***At Kents Hill Junior School we are committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children, and we expect all staff and volunteers to share this commitment. Designated Safeguarding Lead – Mrs H Alabaster***

*Academy Trust (Registered in England) – Company Number 7804282*

*Reg. address: Kents Hill Junior School, Kents Hill Road, Benfleet, Essex, SS7 5PS*

