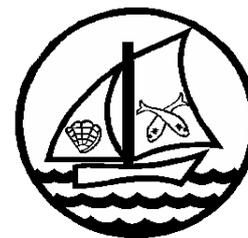


Brightlingsea Infant and Junior Schools and Nursery

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admin@brightlingsea-jun.essex.sch.uk

Headteacher: Mrs Julia Hunt M.Ed (Cantab.)

23rd February, 2018

Dear Parent/Carer,

Severe Weather Procedures – Information For Parents

(please keep this information in a safe place)

We would like to remind you of our severe weather procedures, in case the weather takes a turn for the worst as the forecasters are predicting. In the event of heavy snow preventing our staff from being able to safely travel to school the Head Teacher and Governing Body would have to make a decision to close the school. Half our staff live outside Brightlingsea and have to drive to work. Clearly if these staff are unable to get to school there would not be enough adults in school to safely supervise your children. A decision would be made as early as possible in the morning.

Where will I find information about a school closure?

Some radio stations have advised that they will no longer be able to list school closures on their websites, however Essex County Council have introduced a new online notification system to keep parents informed. This is the best place for parents and guardians to access information as it will provide a definitive list of any closures. We hope radio stations will also continue to support us by announcing closures on air and on their websites but, as we have no control over this content, the new council webpage should be considered the first port of call.

Notification of a school closure will be added to a live feed on the emergency school closures page on the council's website :

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

The page will refresh at 6pm each evening and closure lists for the next day will then go live.

In addition to this new ECC website system we will continue to also take the following action to keep parents informed of any closure in the event of severe weather:

- We will post a closure message on the **Information** page of our school websites www.brightlingsea-inf.essex.sch.uk and www.brightlingsea-jun.essex.sch.uk
- We will endeavour to use our **School Comms and School Ping** services to personally **text** parents to let you know of school closures but parents should not rely on this method, as in previous years when many schools closed due to snow the system we were using could not cope with the demand and failed to deliver the messages we sent! Please ensure that your registered phone number and email address are up-to-date and that your phone is registered to receive text messages from the school.