



St. Joseph's Catholic Primary School

SEVERE WEATHER PLAN

Dear Parents and Carers

Once a year we inform parents of the procedure for closing the school in the event of snow or severe weather for the safety of our pupils, families and staff.

Please keep the following information to hand. There is a copy of this on the schools' website on the Home Page, 'Closure of School in Bad Weather'.

1. Look at the school's website www.st-josephs-primary.devon.sch.uk if the school is closed there will be a message on the front page of the website.
2. Listen to BBC Radio Devon 103.4 FM/95.7 FM
3. Check Devon County Council website - <https://new.devon.gov.uk/schools/closure/>
4. If you are unsure, telephone the school on: 01626 352559. We will always have staff, if at all possible, to answer telephones.
5. Closure notices will be posted at the school gate for those living close by.

The decision to close the school will be made where possible before 7.30am and on the basis of information received from external agencies such as the Met Office and supplemented by on the spot observation, from staff members' best placed to make such observations.

It is hoped that this will only happen on rare occasions but if it does an informed decision will be made on all the up to date information:

1. Safety of staff travelling to school by car will be assessed.
2. The ability to provide adequate/purposeful learning activities for large numbers of children with a small number of staff and keeping within Health & Safety guidelines, will be assessed.
3. Breakdown of school essential services (heating, electrical services, water, storm damage etc).

We do hope that parents will understand that the decision to close the school is not an easy one. We will always try, wherever possible, to remain open.

Individual families should assess the risk posed by their journey to school and make their own decision.

Let's hope that we have a trouble free winter.

Yours faithfully

Kelly Dunne
Headteacher