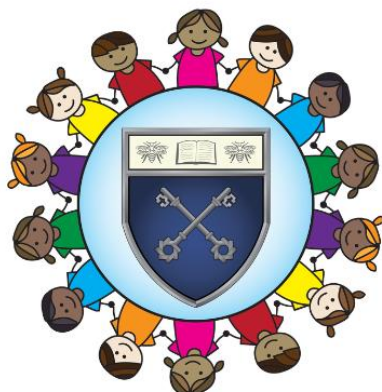




# Longshaw Junior School

Success for all - Nothing Less!



## Adverse Weather Procedures



## **Adverse Weather Procedures**

In the event of disruption caused by heavy snow or adverse weather, the prime concern of the school must always be to ensure the safety of our pupils and staff. The decision to close the school will take account of the safety of all our pupils, staff and visitors. The decision will be made by the Headteacher and Chair of Governors. The school will stay open in all but exceptional circumstances, as long as it is safe to do so.

### **School Attendance**

If the school is open in snow or adverse weather the decision as to whether or not to send a pupil to school, is at the discretion of the parent, taking into account factors such as local road conditions and the availability of child care.

The school appreciates that during bad weather children may arrive later than normal; Please do not contact school to inform us of lateness unless arriving substantially late (after 10am). In these exceptional circumstances there will be a grace period and no late mark will be given. If you do have to contact school please email - [office@longshawjunior.blackburn.sch.uk](mailto:office@longshawjunior.blackburn.sch.uk) rather than by telephone.

The school recognises there will be isolated instances where families are cut off, even where the clear majority of children can get into school. In such instances, parents should inform the school of the circumstances of this exceptional situation, as the school has a duty to clarify the circumstances of each case so as to be able to formally authorise the absence to the Local Authority. Parents acting on the assumption that the school would be closed without gaining confirmation or failing to inform the school of the circumstances that prevents the child coming into school, risks their child being registered as an un-authorised absence.

Staff will always make every reasonable effort to undertake the journey to school. It is appreciated that the journey may take longer than normal and therefore some staff may not be able to arrive before the normal start of the school day.

### **Adverse Weather Procedure**

The following is a reminder of our procedures should adverse weather conditions affect the region.

#### **Severe weather overnight:**

In the event of bad weather, parents should check to see if the school is open before travelling to the site. There are a number of ways to confirm whether the school is open or closed. The school will send out a communication to parents via our website (<https://www.longshawjunior.org/>), text message, email and social media.

Parents/Carers should also listen for list of school closures on the local radio:

BBC Radio Lancashire

Once a decision has been made to shut the school, the Local Authority will be notified. They will have a list of school closures on the Blackburn with Darwen Council Website. If the school is closed, we will try and make a decision as early as possible and will intend to re-open as soon as we can.

**Continuing severe weather:**

The situation for subsequent days will be kept under review and updates will be posted on the school website, Facebook and a text will be sent as soon as a decision has been made to provide parents with as much time as possible to plan their childcare.

**Local weather conditions:**

We are aware that some of our pupils travel considerable distances and that the weather conditions where some pupils live may not be the same as in the area around Longshaw Junior School. Parents are advised that in adverse weather conditions they need to make their own decision as to whether their child attends School based on the conditions in their local area.

**Weather deterioration during the school day:**

In the event of a sudden deterioration in weather conditions during a school day, the situation will be monitored and we will aim to remain open until the end of the school day. However, this is not always possible when roads are becoming treacherous. In these extreme circumstances, parents will be contacted via our text messaging service and asked to collect their children as soon as possible. It is important that parents/carers do not attempt to make contact with the school before any decision has been made about closure and wait for a communication to be sent out. This is to ensure that phone lines are kept open for us to liaise with other schools and agencies.

Under these conditions, we will take verbal permission for children to be collected by a nominated adult. We will require all children who are collected to be signed out by a member of staff. Normal lessons may be curtailed, and the remaining pupils assembled in groups under the supervision of authorised members of staff to await collection. Children will not be allowed to walk home, they must be collected by an adult.

**Clothing**

Please ensure your child is dressed appropriately for the weather conditions. If possible please send your child to school in wellies/outdoor boots and they can change into their school shoes when they get into class.