



Danesfield School

Bad Weather Procedures Policy

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BAD WEATHER EMERGENCY PROCEDURES

Children come to this school from a wide geographical area in which the weather and road conditions can vary considerably. Many children live next door to the school and will be able to walk to and from in virtually any conditions while others live along narrow country roads which easily become impassable.

Most of the staff travel in by car and some of them encounter impossible road and travelling conditions. Some children are brought to school by coach and mini-bus and these could fail to run if conditions get very bad. For all these reasons, it is important that parents use their own judgement and initiative to decide when weather and road conditions are too bad for a child to be brought to school.

Before making any decisions please check the school's website for any updates. If the weather is poor, or there is bad weather forecast, a decision will be made as early as possible. Please refer to the school website: www.danesfieldschool.co.uk

1. It is our intention to keep the school open for the full school day at all times. We would only consider closing the school, or closing early, if weather conditions were extreme and health and safety was a concern. This does not mean, of course, that individual families will have days when they cannot get their children to school or feel that they must collect them early.
2. In very bad conditions, parents should first **check the website** for any updated news. Decisions about school closure will be made as early as possible, hopefully by 7.00 am. If the school is going to close, we will attempt to send out an email to all parents using the

'Schoolcomms' system. Parents of children living close to the school should check, by walking to the school, that the staff have arrived and the school is open before they send their children. **Please do not telephone the school, as our telephone lines need to be kept open for staff to ring in.** No child will be penalised by non-attendance due to very poor weather conditions.

3. If a teacher or teachers should be unable to get to school, the class or classes of pupils will be looked after in an "emergency way" by the available staff for that day and an email sent indicating the arrangements for the next and subsequent days.

4. If children travel by coach/mini-bus, these may be unable to "get through" and in these circumstances the children should remain at home until notified if the bus will be arriving. Again, in very exceptional conditions the bus company may feel that the weather is closing in so badly that they must collect the children early and we will have no alternative but to let the children go. Conditions would be so obviously bad that you would be expecting such an eventuality but we would endeavour to notify parents, especially of very young children, by email or telephone to be ready to meet their children early. (Please ensure that our details of how to contact you in an emergency are always up to date).

5. Suitable Clothing/Footwear. Please ensure that in bad weather conditions, children have warm, waterproof clothes and boots to wear and other shoes to change into in the classrooms. With so many extra bulky clothes to store your help and support is needed: Names on everything, loops on coats and pegs to keep boots in pairs. No matter how hard we try schools are never as warm as home. Please ensure that your child/ren are warmly clothed for sitting in their classrooms.