



Dear Parents / Carers,



Firstly, I would like to wish all of our families a very happy new year. We look forward to working with you again in 2024 to secure the best for our young people. The partnership between school and home is particularly important when snow is forecast! You will have seen that adverse weather is forecast this week. Whilst predictions do not look worrying enough to suggest any disruption to learning I have used the opportunity to outline to parents what may happen if we experience adverse weather that might disrupt the school day.

### Mild Snowfall



If we see small flurries of snow, there will be no disruption to the school day. Learners will travel to school for a regular school day. We will be lenient with footwear and additional layers during such weather. Learning will progress as normal. We would ask parents to leave additional time to allow for slower journeys to school.

### Moderate Snowfall



When heavier snow falls (particularly overnight) this can compromise the safe opening of the school. When this happens schools need to time to assess the safety of the site, allow for an evaluation of staffing levels (as our staff travel from all over the North West) and ensure that learners can travel to school safely. To facilitate this, we may decide to delay the start to the school day until 9.45am. If this is the case the decision will be shared via synergy and on social media before 7am, earlier when we can. Where learners live locally we would encourage them to arrive in school an hour later. Where there is significant travel or a reliance on public transport, those who arrive early can keep warm in the school canteens. Once a clear view of site safety and staffing levels has been established we would only make the decision to close the school site if it was deemed unsafe to open, this is rare.



### Heavy Snowfall



It is rare that snow is so heavy that school must close / close early. Where this is the case we will inform parents as soon as a decision is made. I would ask parents to support us by not calling the school to ask what is happening. Similarly contacting children directly giving permission to leave site is unhelpful. Where face to face schooling is cancelled the school will provide work that **must** be completed before the school reopens. I would like to take a realistic approach here. If there is snow many young people will choose to enjoy a range of outside activities, whilst others may need to care for younger siblings. Teaching staff may have their own childcare responsibilities. For these reasons we will not offer remote live learning, but instead set meaningful work to support learning that can be completed at any time during the closure of the school.



I am hopeful that we will see nothing more than mild snowfall this week, if any at all. Thank you in advance for your understanding and patience should snow descend on us this week, or in the near future.

Yours sincerely,

Mr N S Coe  
Headteacher

