



Christ Church
CE Primary School

Adverse Weather

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Adverse Weather Conditions Policy

It is the policy of Christ Church CE Primary School to make every effort to remain open whenever possible. The decision to close the school either before or during the school day will be made by the Headteacher, based on a thorough risk assessment.

Conditions for Closure

The school will only be closed if one or more of the following conditions apply:

1. Insufficient staff are able to attend to maintain safe pupil-teacher ratios.
2. Conditions on site are dangerous, including:
 - Unsafe access to the school building.
 - Inability to evacuate safely in an emergency.
 - Emergency services unable to access the site.
 - Unsafe disembarkation areas for pupils.
3. Conditions are or are expected to become too hazardous for travel.

Communication of Closure

If the school is to close, the Headteacher will notify Bury Council and communicate the closure via the school website and text messaging service. Local media may also be informed. Parents are expected to check the school website and text messages for updates.

Attendance and Absence

The school understands that adverse weather may cause delays. Parents should inform the school if they are delayed. In exceptional cases where families are cut off, the school must be informed to authorise the absence. Assumptions about closure without confirmation may result in unauthorised absence. Where the school is officially closed, all absence is authorised.

Early Closure

In the event of worsening conditions during the day, parents will be contacted via text to collect their children. Early release will only occur in extreme circumstances.

Site Safety Measures

In snowy or icy conditions, key pathways will be cleared and salted by the site supervisor. Parents, children, and visitors will be informed that cleared paths may still be slippery. Children will be reminded in assemblies. Parents are responsible for their children before and after school hours.

Playground Access

During adverse weather, the playground may be closed at the Headteacher's discretion. Essential pathways will be maintained throughout the day to prevent build-up of snow and ice.