

Farthinghoe Community Primary School



Policy for Adverse Weather Conditions

It is the policy of the 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 Head Teacher and Chair of Governors. The school will only be closed if one or more of the following conditions apply:

1. Insufficient staff are able to come in to keep the school running safely.
2. Conditions on site are dangerous.
3. Conditions are considered to be, or are anticipated to later become, too hazardous for travel.

If the school is to close:

The closure will be recorded on the school website: www.farthinghoeprimaryschool.co.uk

The closure will be recorded on the Northamptonshire County Council Website by the Head Teacher. This information will be displayed to the public via the schools directory on the NCC website: www.northamptonshire.gov.uk/schoolclosures

The media (BBC Radio Northampton 104.2 & 103.60 FM, Heart Northants 96.6FM, Heart Oxfordshire 102.6 FM, Banbury Sound 107.6FM) will then broadcast details.

The school will make all practicable efforts to keep parents informed as to the situation with the school during adverse weather conditions, as we appreciate that such conditions and the uncertainty around them places very considerable difficulties upon parents. However parents are expected to check the website and/or make themselves aware of the radio broadcasts when it is clear that a closure is a possibility.

The school appreciates that during bad weather children may arrive later than normal; parents should endeavour to contact the school to let them know they are on their way if likely to be delayed.

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, risk their child being registered as an un-authorised absence. Where the school is officially closed, all absence is recorded as authorised absence.

In the event of the school having to close during the day due to unforeseen worsening weather or similar unforeseen circumstances, parents/carers will be contacted by phone either at home or work and asked to collect their child/ren. Such an early release will only be contemplated in very extreme circumstances.

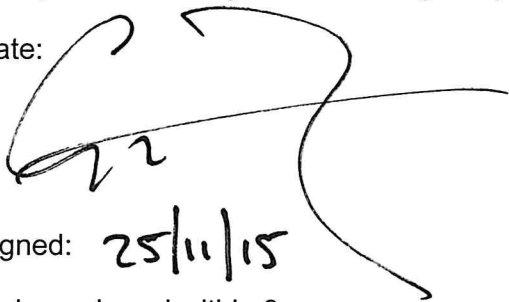
Before and after school opening hours parents are responsible for ensuring their children do not slide on the school playground. Where necessary, a pathway to the playground door and front door will be kept as clear as possible and salted throughout the day. Parents, children, staff and visitors will be made aware that pathways, even where cleared, do remain dangerous. Children will also be reminded of this in assembly.

During adverse weather conditions, the playground may be out of bounds to children at break times if the Head Teacher decides it necessary.

In the Head Teacher's absence the Senior Teacher on site will assume responsibility for making all decisions relating to the Adverse Weather Policy.

Policy considered by the Governing Body

Date:

A large, stylized handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of several loops and a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Signed:

25/11/15

To be reviewed within 3 years.