

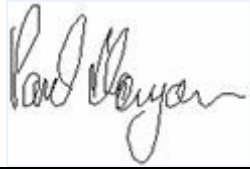


Whitehall
Park School
LEARN ENJOY SUCCEED

Adverse Weather Policy

This policy applies to all pupils in the school, including EYFS

This policy should be read in conjunction with the following policies: Health and Safety policy and the Hot Weather and Sun Safety Policy.

Signed:	
Chair of Governors:	Paul Domjan
Approved:	03 rd October 2019
Review Date:	October 2021

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.

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:

1. The closure will be recorded on the Whitehall Park School website as well as the Islington Borough Website.

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 places very considerable difficulties upon parents. However parents are expected to check the website 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 prevent the child coming into school risks their child being registered as an un-authorised absence.

Where the school is officially closed, all absence is counted 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 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.

In the event of snow some pathways will be cleared and salted. Parents, children and visitors will be made aware that pathways, even where cleared, do remain dangerous. Children will also be reminded of this in assembly. Before and after school opening hours parents are responsible for ensuring their children do not slide on the school playground.



In icy conditions the staff or caretaker will salt wide pathways as follows:

1. from the front gate to the door of the office
2. from the front gate to the Reception classrooms and up to the playground
3. The playground
4. The Reception and Year 1 outdoor area
5. The stairs down to the playground and the bike store.

Where necessary, essential pathways will be maintained as clear as possible throughout the day.

On school days where the school is closed to pupils, the pathway will still be maintained during snow and ice weather on a daily basis by the staff or caretaker (so long as they been able to gain access to the school) to keep the pathways clear and prevent build-up of ice and snow.

During significant adverse weather conditions, the classrooms will be open from 8.45am for parents to bring their children inside. All parents should drop their children off as normal.

In the Head teacher's absence the member of staff in charge of the school will assume responsibility for making all decisions relating to the Adverse Weather Policy.

To be reviewed in September 2020