



COTHAM SCHOOL

INCLEMENT WEATHER POLICY

Dear Parent/Carers

Emergency Closure Information and Procedures (i.e. 'Snow Days')

With the advance of winter we thought it appropriate to familiarise all families with the School's procedures in the event of adverse weather. We aim to remain open throughout snow showers wherever possible.

The School's first priority is to be open for students. In the event of severe snow, please assume that we are open, but check the School's website where we will post any updates. The unlikely event of partial or full closure to students will occur only:

- If we do not have sufficient staff to properly supervise students.
- To ensure the safety and welfare of our students, and the whole school community, in the event of extreme weather conditions, fire, flooding, the spread of illness (as advised by the government), heating failure or an inability to provide food and water.

Where possible we consult other groups such as transport providers, the Police and our Health and Safety Advisors. If a decision is made to close the School it will be posted on our website as early as possible on that day. Please note that our switchboard is often overloaded with calls on these days and unable to respond to them all. We will send a text message to parents and staff as soon as possible – please ensure that we have an up to date mobile number.

If bad weather begins during the school day

If it becomes apparent during the day that the weather is deteriorating and getting home might become an issue, we shall do the following:

- a) Keep in touch with transport providers to find out what services are operating.
- b) If the decision is made to close notify all parents and carers by text message and place a message on our website. **Please ensure we have an up to date mobile number.**

Partial Closure

In the event of very heavy snow, the School may open **only for a selection of students** and/or operate a reduced timetable resulting in **a shortened day**. In either case, we will endeavour to inform parents and carers via text message and our website as soon as possible.

Where we operate a partial closure students who must attend do so in the following priority order depending upon the extent of the closure:

- Students taking public examinations
- Yr13, Yr11
- Yr10, Yr 12

Alternatively, a slightly reduced timetable may run to allow greater travel time to and from school and to avoid travelling in the dark. On these occasions after school events and activities would be cancelled.

The School day would begin at 9.30am with registration and finish at 13:05pm. This adapted day will allow us to keep three out of five lessons, with one break.

I sincerely hope that we can avoid any school closures wherever possible due to the weather. However, as always, it is best to be prepared. We remind families to ensure that students are dressed appropriately with warm coats, gloves and scarves.

Yours sincerely

Ms Jo Butler
Headteacher

The revised school day in the event of adverse weather will be:

	Start	Finish
Registration	9.30	9.45
Period 1	9.45	10.45
Break	10.45	11.05
Period 2	11.05	12.05
Period 3	12.05	13.05
END OF SCHOOL DAY		

Bristol City Council Advice Line:-

<https://www.bristol.gov.uk/crime-emergencies/weather-conditions-update>