



Snow and Bad Weather Policy

Date agreed by governors.	21.3.17
Review Date	March 2022
Policy Written by	Leeds City Council

Safeguarding Statement.

At Lane End we are committed to providing a caring, friendly and safe environment for all of our pupils so they can learn in a relaxed and secure atmosphere. We believe every pupil should be able to participate in all school activities in an enjoyable and safe environment and be protected from harm. This is the responsibility of every adult employed by or invited to deliver services at Lane End.

We recognise our responsibility to safeguard and promote the welfare of all our pupils by protecting them from physical, sexual or emotional abuse, neglect and bullying.

We also exercise this responsibility by educating our children so that they grow in their understanding of their rights and responsibilities to themselves and others, in safety consciousness, and, in their maturity and abilities to keep themselves and others safe.

We perceive this to be part of our role in promoting British values.

Lane End Primary School

Snow and Bad Weather Policy

Deciding to close or partially close our school due to snow conditions will be made by the Head teacher who will have 'on the ground' knowledge of the situation and the decision will, wherever possible, be made in consultation with the Chair of Governors.

Whilst we understand the difficulties to some parents/carers that an unexpected closure may bring the over-riding decision to close our school will be made on the basis of student welfare. The National Association of Head Teachers (NAHT) state that welfare includes *“a number of considerations, but focuses on whether children can get to and from school safely, whether the site is safe and whether there are enough staff to supervise youngsters..... hazardous conditions such as a playground that has turned into an ice-rink or insufficient heating can also be a factor”*.

The decision making process will also take account of:

- The basic entitlement of 190 'pupil days' which should be offered if at all possible
- Consideration should be given to closing the school to just some year groups and / or changing the opening and closing time if either will avoid complete closure
- Consideration should be given to offering a reduced curriculum (or even non-curriculum) provision as an alternative to closure.

When there is extreme weather we may occasionally be forced to close for the day in the interest of pupils' safety. On such mornings, parents and transport will receive a text. School will also inform the local radio stations for details of our school closures and advise parents to listen to one of the following stations: BBC Radio Leeds, Radio Aire

Very occasionally, the taxi firms hired to transport pupils to and from Lane End Primary School may feel that the weather is too severe for their cars to be on the roads. Should this be the case, school will text the parents of those students affected by the decision. If parents are able to transport their child to school, under such circumstances, they must ensure that they will be able to collect them when school closes.

Information about emergency and planned school closures is published on the County Council website <http://www.leeds.gov.uk/schoolclosures>. This is the main source of up to date countywide information about school closures and is a key resource especially in times of widespread closures, for example, as a result of severe weather