

## **Bad weather Conditions**

### **School Closures**

Now that winter is upon us, with bad weather a possibility, I am writing to remind you about how we deal with severe weather, especially snow, which may affect the Academy.

Please be assured that every effort is made to keep the Academy open. However there are exceptional circumstances where the safety of your child/children is the primary concern. At such times a decision is made on whether it is safe or practical to open the school to our pupils. For example, when the journey to school is dangerous due to weather conditions such as heavy snow or when teaching staff, who travel some distance to reach school, are obliged to abandon their journey due to unsafe weather conditions. At such times school closure is considered the safest option. If a decision is made to close the Academy a text alert will be sent as soon as possible informing you of the closure by 7.30 am.

Information can also be found by:-

- Visiting Dorset for You: <https://mapping.dorsetforyou.gov.uk/closedservices/Service/schools>

Please make use of this information source. It is very important that we are able to make essential outgoing calls during such times. So please do not telephone school unless in an emergency.

In the unlikely event that a decision is made to close the Academy during the school day a text message alert will be sent to you. Again we make every effort to remain open and will always ensure children remain safe. Please remember to keep your mobile phone switched on to ensure that you are able to receive any news or important updates.

### **Arrival at School**

Our facilities team will ensure a safe pathway is available for you to get into the Academy when arriving at school in icy conditions. Please ensure that children walk safely with you along this route and do not allow them to play on icy surfaces in the playground. Please send children straight into the Academy at usual time.

### **Wellingtons and Warm Clothes**

Whenever possible children play outside during morning break and at lunchtimes. Please ensure that they have sufficient warm clothes to wear at these times. It is always worthwhile packing a change of clothes – as we all love to go out and play in the snow.