

What could cause an emergency closure?

A snow fall alone, does not mean we will automatically close. We can all remember those days of childhood when we would dress up in layers of clothes to enjoy playing and learning in the snow making memories that last a lifetime. We would evaluate the situation taking into account temperature, how heavy the snowfall is, how icy it is and the affect the snowfall may have had on the roads as well as the nature of the forecast.

The school would only need to close:

- If adverse conditions result in a failure of the heating system or other key utility, resulting in school being unfit for reasonable use.
- If adverse conditions result in difficulty for members of staff getting to school, which could cause an insufficient number to provide adequate care for the children.
- If the safety of the building / site or access to it was compromised.

The decision to close is not taken lightly and is based on a clear risk assessment of the situation in the context of advice received regarding weather reports, road clearance and utility issues.

How would we communicate an emergency closure to parents?

In the event of a closure, our primary aim is to communicate this to parents as soon as is possible.

- We will in the first instance, email all parents via Arbor and aim to do this by 7.45am
- The school website will be updated, to show the closure.

We would ask that in the event of adverse weather conditions that you check your emails and politely ask that you do not phone the school for this information, as in the event of adverse weather there may be no one to answer your calls.

If the closure is known the day before, then emails and Dojo messages as well as a notice outside school would be used.

It is of course worth remembering that this procedure would be used for any emergency closure, not just as a result of snow eg a burst water main or a complete heating failure.