



Emergency School Closure Policy and Procedure in Adverse Conditions.

Statement:

To ensure the safety of the children and staff during the school day.

Aim:

The school is located in a valley and the weather can adversely affect the roads, making them impassable by car. To ensure that no-one gets stuck or is unable to drive to or from the school the following procedure is in place.

Adverse weather conditions means weather that could prevent the safe opening of the school because of serious health and safety concerns arising from serious weather relating to any or all of the following:

- Access from the school gate to the main entrance of school
- Movement around the school site
- The internal premises of the school regarding water & heating
- The external fabric of the school building
- The travel situation affecting the roads which would seriously affect the ability to travel to and from school safely and within a reasonable time by normal and alternative means.

Severe Weather Forecast

If the forecast predicts extreme weather conditions, all parents will be contacted by 2pm, that day via email, to inform them of a school closure the following day.

Wind Gusts

If the national forecast is showing wind gusts of 55mph or higher for the Llangolman area (10 on the Met Office Beaufort Scale) , the School and any school-related event will have to be closed / cancelled . If this relates to the following day, parents will be informed by 2pm the previous day.

The Beaufort Scale

Wind Force	Description	Wind Speed			Specifications	Probable Wave Height		Sea State
		km/h	mph	knots		meters	Max	
0	Calm	<1	<1	<1	Smoke rises vertically. Sea like a mirror	--	--	0
1	Light Air	1-5	1-3	1-3	Direction shown by smoke drift but not by wind vanes. Sea rippled	0.1	0.1	1
2	Light Breeze	6-11	4-7	4-6	Wind felt on face; leaves rustle; wind vane moved by wind. Small wavelets on sea	0.2	0.3	2

3	Gentle Breeze	12-19	8-12	7-10	Leaves and small twigs in constant motion; light flags extended. Large wavelets on sea	0.6	1.0	3
4	Moderate Breeze	20-28	13-18	11-16	Raises dust and loose paper; small branches moved. Small waves, fairly frequent white horses	1.0	1.5	3-4
5	Fresh Breeze	29-38	19-24	17-21	Small trees in leaf begin to sway; crested wavelets form on inland waters. Moderate waves, many white horses	2.0	2.5	4

6	Strong Breeze	38-49	25-31	22-27	Large branches in motion; whistling heard in telegraph wires; umbrellas used with difficulty. Large waves, extensive foam crests	3.0	4	5
7	Near Gale	50-61	32-38	28-33	Whole trees in motion; inconvenience felt when walking against the wind. Foam blown in streaks across the sea	4.0	5.5	5-6

8	Gale	62-74	39-46	34-40	Twigs break off trees; generally impedes progress. Wave crests begin to break into spindrift	5.5	7.5	6-7
9	Strong Gale	75-88	47-54	41-47	Slight structural damage (chimney pots and slates removed). Wave crests topple over, spray affects visibility	7.0	10.0	7
10	Storm	89-102	55-63	48-55	Seldom experienced inland; trees uprooted; considerable structural damage. Sea	9.0	12.5	8

					surface largely white			
11	Violent Storm	103-117	64-72	56-63	Very rarely experienced; accompanied by widespread damage. Medium-sized ships lost to view behind waves. Sea covered in white foam, visibility seriously affected	11.5	16.0	8
12	Hurricane	118+	73+	64+	Devastation. Air filled with foam and spray, very poor visibility	14+	---	9



Before School

If the weather is severe and has not been predicted, the "Snow and Severe weather Protocol" (appendix 1) will come into practice. All parents will be contacted via email to inform them that the school is closed.

During School

During school hours, if the weather conditions become hazardous to driving, the school will close.

The school office will notify parents via email. If a parent is worried by the state of the roads when their child is in school and before the school takes action, then parents can telephone the school to come in to collect their child, or give permission for another parent to collect them.

The school will close until further notice is given via email and the Website. The trustees have agreed to this procedure.

Reviewed Date: March 2023



SNOW AND SEVERE WEATHER PROTOCOL

If the weather forecast predicts severe weather, the HST will check the weather forecast that afternoon and decide whether to close the school the following day.

Parents will be informed by admin (via email) before the end of the school day.

On occasions that the weather is severe and hasn't been forecast , the following procedure is to be followed:

- Members of the Health and Safety Team to check road conditions between 06:45 and 07:00
- Any teacher who cannot travel due to conditions should inform their team as soon as possible.
- A member of The Health and Safety Team to contact the Teaching Team Facilitator and Early Years Facilitator and report on road conditions . The Teaching Team and Early Childhood Team should then make a final decision with regards to opening the school.

Reviewed : March 2023