

Deyes High School



Extreme Weather Policy

November 2017

1.0 Introduction

The School is committed to opening in all circumstances, it is very unlikely that the school will ever have to close and parents and students should assume the school remains open unless they hear otherwise.

However in the event of severe weather conditions (very heavy snow) the school considers the safety and wellbeing of its students and staff with the utmost importance and any decision to close the school will be taken after the following have been considered

Are there/will there be enough staff members to be able to provide a proper educational environment?

Can the school provide lunch for all the students?

Are the school grounds clear of snow/ice to be safe for access?

Can the school be heated to legally required temperatures?

Does the building have enough lighting and hot water?

The school will also take account of local and national weather forecasts and may base our decision to close (or remain closed during a prolonged snowy spell) on these.

2.0 Communications

2.1 Snowfall overnight

If there is heavy snowfall overnight the school management team will need to decide whether it is safe to open the school. The headteacher will seek approval for closure from the CEO. We will do everything possible to make our decision by 07.00am.

If we decide not to open we will;

- Contact Radio City & Capital FM who will broadcast the closure on air
- Record a telephone message on the school's main number
- Update the Academy website www.deyeshighschool.co.uk
- Text as many parents as possible via the school text service

2.2 Snowfall during the school day

If there is heavy snow during the school day, the students will be sent home at the most timely and appropriate time.

We will send a letter home with each child, informing parents/carers to check the

school communications systems as in 2.1.

Members of staff who live in vulnerable geographical areas will be invited to go home at the safest opportunity. This will be determined on a case by case basis,

3.0 Exams

The school will implement emergency contingency plans for staffing exams and students should always report to sit their exams as normal.

4.0 Safety

4.1 Grounds safety

In the event of heavy snow or ice the site staff will try to ensure a clear pathway into the school site and grit the cleared area

4.2 Snow play

We understand the enjoyment that snow brings and believe that children should be allowed to play outside during snowy conditions, as long as school; guidelines are followed. The Head teacher will decide whether to allow students outside.