



Meersbrook Bank Primary School

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Head Teacher: Mrs G. Harvey



Thursday 7th January 2022

Dear Parents and Carers,

Although it was officially a white Christmas in Sheffield this year, luckily it didn't stick. However, we do have a bit more snow forecast so I thought it prudent to get ahead of any bad weather to let you know about adverse weather arrangements.

In the event of snow we always aim to keep the school functioning as usual if we are able to staff and supervise the children to a satisfactory level. However, this is not always possible but rest assured that the decision to close the school is never taken lightly. We must consider the safety of the school site, the road conditions, not just in Meersbrook but further afield, especially as several staff live a considerable distance away. We also need to ensure an adequate staffing complement is in place for the children. When a closure is made, this information will be posted on the school website, facebook and twitter pages, in addition to the Local Authority's school closure page: <https://www.sheffield.gov.uk/home/schools-childcare>, and is communicated to the local radio stations, BBC Radio Sheffield and Hallam FM.

I am sure that you will appreciate that no two occurrences of snow are the same and we work hard to make what we feel to be the right decision at the time, based on the information we have.

If heavy snow is forecast for the night ahead and/or following day, a text will be sent informing you what arrangements will be in place (i.e. school closure or a late start) We will aim to send this out that school by approximately 7pm in the evening. Hopefully this will give you a little time to plan for any arrangements which need to be made.

If an unpredicted snowfall occurs during the night, and the forecast is bad for the day ahead, school will be closed. A text will be sent by approximately 7.30am.

If the site and roads are deemed to be safe and heavy snow is not forecast for the rest of the day, the decision will be made to delay the start of school in order to allow staff and families to travel to school safely. Again, this will be communicated to parents by approximately 7.30am.

Please take your time in getting to school and stay safe at all times.

During this winter, PLEASE SEND YOUR CHILD IN WARM CLOTHING, INCLUDING HATS, GLOVES AND WELLIES, not only for playtimes but in case a situation arises on their way home that necessitates walking. PLEASE SEND EXTRA SNACKS and drinks in case we cannot provide school dinners for any reason.

If you find that you are stuck in the snow at the end of the day and will either be delayed or even unable to collect your children, please do not worry – do not put yourself in further danger by pressing on. If you can, ring school to let us know and we will agree a plan of action with regard to where your children should go. If you can't get to a phone, do not be concerned about your children, they will be looked after.

Wrap up warm!

Yours Sincerely,
Mrs G. Harvey

