

# East Crompton St George's CE Primary School

## Snow Policy Spring 2020



Date Adopted: Spring term 2020

Review Date: Spring term 2023

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'R K88'.

Head Teacher

At East Crompton St George's we let our LIGHT shine

Love of Learning. Independence. God in our Hearts. High Achieving. Together as One Family.

## Introduction

East Crompton St George's Primary School is situated in Shaw which is 200m above sea level and is near the Pennines. We can suffer from heavy snowfall which makes reaching the school difficult for pupils and staff. We also have many families that use public transport which can be affected by heavy snow in Oldham.

## Our Priority

We make every effort to remain open during conditions of adverse weather, but staff and young people's safety, both on site and when travelling, is our priority.

## How school seeks to ensure your child's safety during severe weather

We take all possible steps to ensure that access to the site and the school is safe. The school site is large with several entrance points to the grounds and a 'snow risk assessment' is in place which details the processes that are followed by the Site Manager during snow/icy weather. This risk assessment details which entrances will be cleared and gritted in consultation with the Head Teacher.

1. We monitor weather forecasts closely and take advice from a range of agencies. In rare circumstances the Headteacher may decide in advance to close the school. Every effort is made to give notice the night before, but if conditions worsen, the decision to close the school will be made in the morning. Notice of a closure will be sent by text to the number we hold for parents and carers. We will also update our website and will inform Oldham Council to put it on their website.
2. **Early dismissal.** Once children are in school, their safety is the school's responsibility. Even if the weather is bad, it is often better to wait until the end of the school day, so children can go home as normal. If reports indicate that travel will become more difficult the Head Teacher may take the decision to close school early. Parents and carers will be advised by text of a closure. The website will also be updated. Telephone calls will be made to parents of children that have not been collected.

## Responsibility of parents

1. Parents must ensure that their son/daughter is properly dressed during bad weather. i.e. they have a coat and sensible shoes, boots or wellingtons bringing a change of footwear into school eg PE footwear.
2. Have access to their mobile phone or the internet to check for information and avoid ringing school to ask if we are closing where possible. We will inform parents as soon as we have any information.
3. The law requires that children on the roll of a school must attend. However, if conditions in the morning are very severe in the home area, and transport affected, the parent or carer must take the decision about whether to send their child to school. In law this has to be recorded as an 'unauthorised' absence.

## In Summary

Please be assured that we will not put the safety of any child at risk. We will keep parents updated with any information via text messages and the website.