

**West Tytherley Primary School
ADVERSE WEATHER CONDITIONS POLICY**

Signed On behalf of the Governing Body

Date : December 2012

Review: Autumn 2013

This policy has been written following a risk assessment and legal advice from HCC and the NAHT union.

During the winter months there are occasions when we can experience adverse weather conditions. It is always very difficult when we have snow and ice to determine how this will affect travel etc and we would ask that you follow the policy below if we experience any bad weather.

The advice from Hampshire County Council is:

‘The decision to close a school is for local management, to be made by the Headteacher in consultation with the Chair of Governors. Decisions should be based on a risk assessment, taking into consideration the conditions at the school and the health and safety of staff and pupils.’

If at all possible the school will remain open and staff will be here as normal. N.B. we are legally required to have a qualified teacher and paediatric first aider on site.

However due to road conditions some staff may be late arriving and the start of the school day could be affected. We would ask, therefore, that children do not arrive on snowy days until 9.15 am.

We would ask that you listen to the local radio stations, check the school website or listen to the answer phone message until you are ready to leave for school, for information if you feel that a problem may arise from any adverse weather conditions.

Or check the Hampshire County Council website:

<http://www.hants.gov.uk/schoolclosures>
www.west-tytherley.hants.sch.uk

The Policy at West Tytherley Primary School for adverse weather conditions is that:

At the start of the school day

The Headteacher and Chair of Governors, following advice obtained locally, will make a decision based on conditions at school and the surrounding roads and footpaths as to whether it is safe to open the school.

To enable the school to open it may be necessary to delay the start time and again these details would be given to parents via local radio and the Hampshire county Website.

Parents are asked to note that it may not be possible for staff to answer the school telephone and we would ask that you call the numbers below after 8.00 am. If this is the case:

If you live in the East Tytherley area: Julia Rose	01794 341118
If you live in the West Tytherley area: ???	01794 ????
If you live in the West or East Dean area: Amanda Bowyer	01794 340746
If you live in the Winterslow area: Amanda Wise	01980 863277
(For Breakfast Club information call: Marion King on 01794	after 7.30

Listening to the local radio for details of any closure is the preferred method of communication. We will update the school website to reflect the most current information, although this only updates every quarter past the hour.

On snowy days please could you ensure that children bring a change of clothes and wrap up warmly so that we can use the outside space. It is also advisable to send your children with a packed lunch, in case we are unable to provide school dinners.

If you feel that you cannot attend school on a snowy day please contact the school by phone between 9:00am - 10am.

During the school day

Once a decision has been made to open the school it will **be highly unlikely to close** during the day.

If the weather becomes severe during the day, then parents may contact the school if they feel that they would like to collect their child early for safety reasons (ie travelling/walking long distances or collecting other children from local schools).

The school will remain open until 3.15pm. However, if parents are delayed due to the adverse weather conditions, they should contact the school as soon as possible to give an anticipated arrival time. In such circumstances, children will be supervised until a parent/carer is able to collect them.

At the end of the school day

If it is perfectly obvious, because of current conditions or a forecast of imminent snowfall or icy conditions for the following day, then a decision will be made the evening before. This is to give carers the maximum time to arrange alternative child care.

Arrangements for setting work for pupils:

Where there has been a severe weather warning, as a precaution and in order to enable education to be continued, the school will send homework with the children on the previous day. This will also be posted on the school website.

If the snow is unexpected, then homework will be posted on the website after 10.00 am.

On behalf of the Governing Body

December 2012