

Emergency - severe weather school closure procedure

As we are all aware, when the snow comes it creates havoc with transport or communications and under such circumstances it is often very difficult for the staff who live several miles away, to get in to school. In the event of extreme weather, we operate a “**Snow Plan**” which ensures that all the pupils are looked after and are safe.

In School Hours Closure Plan

In matters related to adverse weather conditions that occur during the school day, the school will be **kept open** until a decision has been made by the Minister of Education.

Whilst waiting for this decision, school staff will do everything they can to ensure that the safety of children and staff is maintained.

When the decision has been made to close the school as a result of extreme weather conditions, information will be posted on the school FaceBook page and a message will be sent to parents via e-mail. Local radio stations (Manx Radio, 3FM and Energy FM) have always been extremely helpful in not only listing school closures online, but also using their airtime to keep people informed. They will continue to support us in getting vital school closure messages out in as many ways as possible.

The school phone is likely to be very busy and it may not be possible to get through, so we would ask parents to keep updated via the methods outlined above instead. THEREFORE PLEASE DO NOT PHONE THE SCHOOL TO ASK IF WE ARE OPEN.

Once this decision has been made to close the school it will not be reversed, even if weather conditions improve.

Some members of school staff will remain on site to take care of pupils until parents/carers arrive to collect them.

Out of Hours Closure Plan

The decision to stay open or close the school is made by the Minister of Education by 8.00am. This will be based on;

- the ability of staff and pupils to get into schools
- Information from Bus Vannin / IoM Police / DOI
- the safety /conditions in the building, given the weather
- the likelihood of weather becoming even worse during the day

When the decision has been made to close the school as a result of extreme weather conditions, a message will be sent to parents via e-mail. Updates will also be posted onto the school's Facebook page. Local radio stations (Manx Radio, 3FM and Energy FM) have always been extremely helpful in not only listing school closures online, but also using their airtime to keep people informed. They will continue to support us in getting vital school closure messages out in as many ways as possible.

Once this decision has been made to close the school it will not be reversed, even if weather conditions improve.