

FLEMING FULTON SCHOOL



ADVERSE WEATHER POLICY

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Exceptional Closure

An exceptional closure is unplanned, and is due to unforeseen circumstances such as **adverse weather conditions**, power failure, or situations which affect the safety of pupils and staff.

In times of extreme weather, such as a heavy snowfall, the Principal and Vice Principal with responsibility for Health and Safety will consider and carry out a risk assessment based on the following issues:

○ Health and Safety

- Can pupils and staff access the school grounds and building safely?
- Can pupils and staff be evacuated in an emergency?
- In an emergency, could the Emergency Services access the school?
- Is the area designated for disembarkation from transport safe for pupils?
- Is the School Nurse available?

○ Transport

- Can buses exit the school grounds to collect the pupils?
- Can buses reach the school safely?
- If snow has fallen during the day can buses safely transport pupils home?

○ Pupil / Teacher Ratio

The Teacher/Pupil Ratio must be assessed by the SLT as being safe and manageable

○ Weather Forecast

Local weather forecasts and road conditions, including those for areas from which pupils and staff will be travelling, will be taken into consideration.

Action plan

The Principal will endeavour to make a decision at the earliest possible time. Decisions the night before can only be taken when all the indications are that adverse conditions will continue overnight.

If the principal decides to close the school this applies to all Fleming Fulton School Staff.

Every effort will be made between BELB ground maintenance and the School Building Supervisor to ensure that the grounds and building are safe for use.

Should continuing severe weather conditions throughout the school day impact further on the risk assessment then a decision to close early will be communicated to parents and staff at the earliest possible time.

Staff must make a reasonable effort to get to work. It is essential that staff and parents/carers keep in communication with the school as to their current position.

If a decision is made to close the school this will be communicated to parents and staff in the following ways:

- **Parentmail text message**
- **BBC – This will be available through the BBC’s news service and online**
- **Cool FM / U106 / Local radio programmes**
- **Information will also be posted on the front page of the school website**