



## **ADVERSE WEATHER POLICY**

Reviewed by: Donna James

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Approved by the Head Teacher:

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## **Bristol Steiner School Policy for Adverse Weather Conditions**

It is the policy of the school to make every effort to remain open whenever possible. The decision to close the school either before or during the school day will be made by the Head Teacher and The Business Manager. The school will only be closed if one or more of the following conditions apply:

1. Insufficient staff are able to come in to keep the school running safely.
2. Conditions on site are dangerous
3. Conditions are considered to be or are anticipated to later become too hazardous for travel.

If the school is to close: The closure will be notified via BBC Radio Bristol detailing closed schools.

The school will inform parents via the class reps' telephone trees. The school will make all practicable efforts to keep parents informed as to the situation with the school during adverse weather conditions, as we appreciate that such conditions and the uncertainty places very considerable difficulties upon parents. However, parents are expected to make themselves aware of the radio broadcasts when it is clear that a closure is a possibility.

The school appreciates that during bad weather children may arrive later than normal; parents should endeavour to contact the school to let them know they are on their way if likely to be delayed. The school recognises there will be isolated instances where families are cut off, even where the clear majority of children can get into school. In such instances parents should inform reception, as the school has a duty to record reasons for absence for the local authority. Parents acting on the assumption that the school would be closed without gaining confirmation, or failing to inform the school of the circumstances that prevents the child coming into school risks their child being registered as an unauthorised absence.

Where the school is officially closed, all absence is registered as authorised absence. In the event of the school having to close during the day due to unforeseen worsening weather or similar unforeseen circumstances, parents will be contacted by telephone and asked to collect their child/ren. Such an early release will only be contemplated in very extreme circumstances.

In the Head Teacher's absence the Business Manager or a member of the Senior Management Team on site will assume responsibility for making all decisions relating to the Adverse Weather Policy.