

St. Anthony's Catholic Primary School and Nursery

'Learning, Growing and Living with Jesus'



Policy and Policy into Practice for Adverse Weather Conditions.

Introduction:

The Local Academy Committee of St. Anthony's Catholic Primary School and Nursery believe that every child (Article 28 of the UNICIF Rights of every Child) has the right to attend school. In accordance with this right there are the expectations that parents will ensure that their children attend school and that the school is open to receive children according to the term dates. The school will comply with legislation in offering the correct number of days for attendance. St. Anthony's School believes that all children must be afforded their rights as it is in keeping with their mission

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However, the school recognises that there may be occasions when it is not in the interest of the child to open the school and whilst it is the policy of the school to make every effort to be open at all designated times the school may close if one or more of the following conditions apply:

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

The Head Teacher will decide if the school is to close and will inform the Chair of the Local Academy Committee.

If the school is to close:

1. The closure will be recorded on the Slough Local Authority and School website
2. An email alert will be sent out via SIMs Parent App
3. A message will be placed on our website
4. A message will be posted on our Twitter feed @stanthonysslough
5. If a member of staff is able to access the school, a message will be recorded on our answerphone; notices will be placed on school gates

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 weather can change suddenly and online weather forecasts can be unpredictable. Parents and carers are expected to check the website, SIMs Parent App and our Twitter feed 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 majority of children can get into school. In such instances parents should inform the school of the circumstances of the exceptional situation, as the school has a duty to clarify the circumstances of each case so as to be able to formally authorise the absence to 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.

Policy updated December 2018