



WROTHAM SCHOOL
HIGH EXPECTATIONS, CHALLENGE & OPPORTUNITY

Headteacher – Michael Cater

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Dear Parents/Carers

SCHOOL CLOSURE DUE TO ADVERSE WEATHER

I am writing to clarify arrangements for severe weather. The school will attempt to stay open if at all possible when there is bad weather such as snow, very high winds and/ or widespread flooding. You have the responsibility for getting your child to and from school safely and need to decide if the journey is safe.

You should inform the school if your child is absent due to severe conditions making the journey unsafe. If your child has a disability and/or learning difficulty your decision to make the journey must take this into consideration. Please consider carefully and only keep children at home if conditions are unsafe.

The school is located in a rural area linked by many narrow country roads, staff travel a wide geographical commute and these factors are considered in any decision to close. If snow is heavy or drifting then the school will make the decision to close to avoid unnecessary and potentially dangerous journeys. It is always difficult to predict how weather may turn and my priority as Headteacher is to ensure that a decision is made as early as possible based on local reports and weather forecasts. This is not always accurate and weather may change for better or worse, but it is an important decision to make to avoid making a wasted or dangerous journey to the school for students, parents and staff.

Early notification is our priority and parents at the school know from past occurrences that we will always do our best to stay open.

There will be occasions where the school will need to close and a message will go out on Heart Radio, Radio Kent; www.wrothamschool.com, our school Facebook page and www.kentclosures.co.uk.

In addition to this, we will use our text messaging service (Keep Kids Safe) to inform the “No.1 Parental Contact” of **any** school closure. Please ensure that we have up-to-date information on our data base. Wherever possible the school will try to inform you of this decision the night before.

Late opening or early closure is a possibility in poor weather conditions. In this instance we would send out text messages to keep you informed. You will appreciate that the switchboard becomes very busy.

If weather conditions worsen during the course of the day and you feel it is absolutely necessary to collect your child, the school should be contacted prior to collection. **Please avoid collecting children before the end of the day unless you feel their safety is at risk.**

Students can only leave school early with your knowledge and our agreement. We can accept permission from a parent but unfortunately not a friend of the family. If a student has to leave early they must be collected by their own parents or a carer and they must sign out.

On occasions, school meal services may be affected by weather conditions so it is a good idea for pupils to bring in extra food. Please ensure your son/daughter is appropriately clothed for cold/wet/windy/icy weather. In severe weather conditions students may wear boots or other suitable footwear to school.

Thank you for your continued support with these arrangements.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in grey ink, appearing to read 'M Cater', written in a cursive style.

Mr M Cater
Headteacher