



Adverse Weather Guidance for Parents and Carers

At Nether Green Junior School we aim to remain open whenever possible, even in severe weather. We believe it is important to continue children's learning and to support families by keeping the school operating safely.

Will school be open?

- As a general rule, **assume the school is open** unless you are informed otherwise.
- If the school has to close, we will notify you as early as possible via:
 - Text message/email
- A decision will usually be made by **7:00 am**.
- On rare occasions, we may **open later (normally 10:00 am)** to allow safe travel for staff and pupils. Parents/Carers will be notified in advance if this is the case.

Attendance and travel

- If school is open, **we expect all children to attend** - every day in school counts towards their learning and progress.
- Please allow extra time for journeys and ensure your child is dressed appropriately for the weather.
- Only in exceptional circumstances where travel is genuinely unsafe should your child remain at home. Sometimes, **walking to school may be the safest option** if roads are hazardous.
- If your child cannot attend due to exceptional circumstances, please inform the school.

Playing outside in snow and ice

- Children will be able to enjoy the snow when it is safe to do so.
- Please make sure your child comes to school with:
 - A warm coat
 - Sensible footwear (boots or shoes with grip)
 - Gloves, hat and, if possible, a change of clothes
- For safety, children are asked not to make slides on icy ground.

Communication

- Please avoid phoning school to ask if we are open, unless essential, as staff need the lines free for urgent matters.
- We will communicate promptly with parents/carers if there are any changes during the day, though school will very rarely close mid-day.
- Please make sure the school office always has your **up-to-date contact details** for emergency messages.

Site safety

- We have a **comprehensive Weather Safety & Gritting Policy** in place, which ensures that routes in and around the school are prioritised and treated during icy conditions.
- Parents/Carers are asked to:
 - Use only designated gritted pathways and take extra care on slopes.

-Wear suitable footwear when on school grounds.

-Supervise children before and after school to ensure they do not play in unsafe areas.

-Please collect children promptly, where possible, if worsening weather during the day results in a decision to close the school.