

November 2023

Dear Parents/Carers

### Arrangements for Adverse Weather

We try very hard to minimise the occasions when we have to close the school. It is our last resort under any circumstances. We monitor the weather forecast closely and take advice from external agencies.

During the winter, when bad weather can be expected, our first priority is to ensure that access to the site and school is safe. It is important at such times that parents/carers do not try to drive into the school grounds to drop off or collect pupils.

If conditions deteriorate during the school day, or bad weather is forecast when pupils and staff will be going home, I may have to close the school early. The actual timing will depend on weather reports, the availability of buses and the need to ensure that pupils have had the chance to eat before they leave.

Exceptionally, I may have to decide in advance to close the school. If this is the case, I am sure that you will appreciate that we cannot contact all parents/carers individually.

In the event of adverse weather, or any other such emergency that would require school to close in advance, we ask you to check the school website at [www.fairfieldhighschool.co.uk](http://www.fairfieldhighschool.co.uk). In addition, please avoid telephoning school as the switchboard becomes jammed.

If the weather deteriorates and we have to close the school during the day we will also text all parents/carers registered with the text messaging service – School Comms - to inform you of what we are going to do, though we cannot guarantee that texts will get through immediately.

When bad weather is forecast, please could all parents/carers ensure that all pupils come to school suitably prepared, i.e., with robust outdoor clothing, having had something to eat before they leave home, and with the knowledge of how to get home, or to a safe place in emergencies. **Please note that we do expect all parents/carers to have made arrangements for all pupils in the event of early closure due to snow/adverse weather.** This might mean going to a friend's or relative's house in the local area until they can be picked up. This does not mean remaining in school hoping for an improvement in conditions.

If we have to close the school, by working together and following these guidelines, we can ensure that all pupils arrive home safely and as quickly as possible. I am not anticipating closing the school due to adverse weather, but experience suggests we should always be prepared. In the event of a closure, we will revert to our remote learning provision. Pupils will be able to follow their full curriculum via Microsoft TEAMS.

Thank you in advance for your cooperation.

Yours sincerely



**Mrs S Bateman - Headteacher**