



Devonshire Park Primary School
Temple Road, Birkenhead, CH42 9JX
Telephone: (0151) 608 9243, Fax: (0151) 608 7964
Email: schooloffice@devonshirepark.wirral.sch.uk
Web: www.devonshireparkprimaryschool.co.uk

Headteacher

Wednesday, 30th January 2019

Mrs. J. C. Billinge B.Ed (Hons)

Dear Parents/Carers

ADVERSE WEATHER

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.

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 recorded on the School Website by the Head Teacher.

The media (BBC Radio Merseyside/ Radio City and Heart 97.1 FM) will then broadcast details.

1. 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 check the website and/or make themselves aware of the radio broadcasts when it is clear that a closure is a possibility.

2. 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 the school of the circumstances of this 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.

3. 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 un-authorised absence.

In such instances parents should inform the school of the circumstances of this 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.



4. 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 via parentmail/Twitter/ Website and asked to collect their child/ren. Such an early release will only be contemplated in very extreme circumstances.

5. In the event of snow some pathways will be cleared and salted. Parents, children and visitors will be made aware that pathways, even where cleared, do remain dangerous. Children will also be reminded of this in assembly. Before and after school opening hours parents are responsible for ensuring their children do not slide on the school playground.

In icy conditions the caretaker will salt wide pathways as follows:

A) from the front gate to the main entrance door and side playground entrance

B) from the Prenton Road West entrance to the key stage two entrance and key stage 1 entrance.

C) from the foundation entrance to the key stage 1 entrance

During significant adverse weather conditions children are to come straight into their classrooms which will be open from 8:40.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs. J. Billinge,
(Headteacher).



