

Ref: LS/JW

22 November 2013

Dear Parent/Carer

Re: Winter Weather Arrangements

As we prepare to enter December and approach the time of year when the weather may deteriorate and snowy conditions could return, I thought it prudent to write to you to outline our winter weather arrangements.

In the event of heavy snow overnight and poor forecast conditions that mean we need to decide early in the morning to close the school for the day or go for an early closure, we will communicate information to parents via the text service as well as through our website and via Minster FM and Radio York. These will also be methods of communication used to relay an early closure if this decision is taken during the day due to a deterioration in conditions. We will obviously only consider these actions as a last resort but clearly parents will need to make contingency child care arrangements should this occur. The significant number of students who travel in to school from outlying villages by bus gives us a responsibility for health and safety that goes beyond the school site.

I would like to take this opportunity to stress that normal school uniform arrangements apply throughout the year. While students may need to wear boots or wellingtons to travel to and from school in very snowy conditions, these must be replaced with shoes when students arrive in school.

Wet corridors caused by water brought in by boots or wellingtons are a clear risk to health and safety. I also do not want to see any erosion of our expectations of school uniform. In light of this, I would ask for your support in ensuring that your son/daughter wears school shoes that are able to cope with winter weather. The black canvas shoes currently worn by large numbers of our students do not fall into this category and I do not want to have a situation where students come to school in boots as their canvas shoes are 'drying out'. Please note this is not acceptable practice and that students must have school shoes that can cope with winter weather.

I very much hope that we do not experience harsh winter conditions of last year and that both the end of 2013 and the start of 2014 are accompanied by mild weather. Thank you for your support.

Yours faithfully

Ms L Savage
Headteacher