

# Walmsley CE School



## Snow and Adverse Weather Arrangements

The Governors and Staff at Walmsley are committed to providing a safe and secure learning environment for all pupils. In the event of disruption caused by heavy snow the prime concern of the school will always be the safety of pupils and staff. We will always open our school in the event of adverse weather, as long as it is considered safe to do so.

If the school is open in snow or severe weather the decision as to whether or not to send a pupil to school, however, must be at the discretion of the parent, taking into account factors such as local road conditions and the availability of child care.

Walmsley School appreciates that in severe weather children may arrive later than usual; parents should try to contact school to let them know that they are on their way if they are likely to be delayed. **(Walmsley School 01204 332650)**

Walmsley School recognises that 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 school of the circumstances of this exceptional situation, as we have a duty to clarify the circumstances of each case so we can formally authorise the absence to the Local Authority. Parents acting on the assumption that the school would be closed without gaining confirmation, or failing to inform school of the circumstances that prevents the child coming into school risks their child being registered as an un-authorized absence on this day.

**As soon as a decision is made to close the school, parents will be notified by text.** *(Please ensure that school has up to date contact numbers).*

**A message will also be posted on the school website: [www.walmsley.bolton.sch.uk](http://www.walmsley.bolton.sch.uk)**

In the event of adverse weather, parents should check to see if the school is open before travelling to the site. If school is closed, we will try and make a decision as early as possible, and will intend to re-open as soon as it is deemed safe to do so.

If extreme weather develops during the day, we will aim to remain open until the end of the normal school day. However this is not always possible when roads are becoming treacherous. **Parents will be notified of a decision to close during the school day by text.** Under these conditions we will take verbal permission for children to be collected by a nominated adult. Normal lessons may be curtailed and the remaining pupils assembled in groups under the supervision of authorised members of staff to await collection.

Staff will always make every reasonable effort to undertake the journey to school. It is appreciated that the journey may take longer than normal and therefore some staff may not be able to arrive before the normal start of the school day. It may be necessary to ask all children to bring packed lunches if the kitchen staff are unable to reach school safely.

The Bolton Council website [www.bolton.gov.uk](http://www.bolton.gov.uk) will be updated as often as appropriate with severe weather warnings.