



December 2019

Dear Parents,

Barton, Ravensworth, East Cowton and Kirkby Fleetham CE Schools Severe weather procedure

During severe weather, we will endeavour to keep the schools open. However, on occasion we may be forced to close, particularly if snow falls at crucial times such as early in the morning. Our key priority is always the safety of the children and staff and we will avoid putting anyone at risk. As a result of this I would like to remind you of our plan for school closure in the event of severe weather.

If school does need to close before the start of the school day we will inform parents initially through our Text Messaging service and also through Radio York (103.7FM, 104.3FM and 95.5FM). If the weather is looking particularly bad please keep an eye on your mobile and/or tune in from 7.30am onwards and listen for the frequent school closure announcements. You can also check online to see the most up to date school closure list at any time on <http://www.northyorks.gov.uk>. We will endeavour to make a decision as soon as possible to allow parents to make any necessary childcare arrangements.

If our schools remain open during snowy weather, it will be for the children who can get there safely. Some of our children live in more isolated locations, **Please do not drive your children to school unless you feel it is safe to do so.** If your child comes to school by taxi, we will have spoken to the driver at the start of the day, but again only allow them to travel if you judge it to be safe to do so.

If there is heavy snow during the day and we feel we have to close the school early we will inform people as soon as possible through the text messaging service. Our first priority is to try to contact parents of children who travel home by car or over any kind of distance (again by text messaging service or phone). If you feel that you would like to collect your child early because of the weather this is absolutely fine, just call into school and arrange to do so.

We will always endeavour to keep the school open until 3.30pm although this may be with a skeleton staff/volunteers as we need to allow staff from outlying areas to get away.

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East Cowton CE Primary School | East Cowton | Northallerton | North Yorkshire | DL7 0BD

W: www.eckf.dalesmat.org E: kfadmin@eckf.dalesmat.org T: 01609 748431
Kirkby Fleetham CE Primary School | Kirkby Fleetham | Northallerton | North Yorkshire | DL7 0SA

The Federation of East Cowton and Kirkby Fleetham Church of England Primary Schools are members of the Dales Academies Trust. Dales Academies Trust is an exempt charity regulated by the Secretary of State for Education. It is a company limited by guarantee registered in England and Wales, company number 08372064, whose registered office is at Blair Avenue, Ingleby Barwick, Stockton On Tees, TS17 5BL



Hopefully we will not have to put these plans into operation and we will remain open. If the playground is completely covered in snow and ice and is likely to remain so for several days, we would not normally keep the children inside during this period and we would therefore ask the following:

- Please ensure your child has a change of footwear, preferably (named) wellies for outside and a pair of indoor shoes.
- Please ensure your child has warm outdoor clothes. (A change of socks and gloves is also very useful!)

We will only go outside if the teachers feel it is safe to do so.

As you can appreciate, it is vital that we have up to date emergency contact details in place, so if you have not given us your most recent contact details, please let us know as soon as possible.

If you have any weather concerns please do not hesitate to contact us at school.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "H. Dudman", is enclosed in a light grey rectangular box.

Helen Dudman
Headteacher