



SNOW POLICY & PROCEDURE

Policy prepared by	Mark Couper Barton Headteacher
Policy approved by Local Committee	28.9.22
Next Review Date	Autumn 2025

MAYFIELD PRIMARY SCHOOL
MAYFIELD ROAD, OLDHAM, OL1 4LG

Introductory Statement

Mayfield Primary School is situated in Derker, Oldham, which is over 200m above sea level and is near the Pennines. We can suffer from heavy snowfall which, at times, can make reaching the school difficult for pupils, families, and staff. We also have many families that use public transport, which can be affected by heavy snow in Oldham.

Our Priority

We make every effort to remain open during conditions of adverse weather, but staff and young people's safety, both on site and when travelling, is our priority.

How school seeks to ensure your child's safety during severe weather

We take all possible steps to ensure that access to the site and the school is safe. Pathways are cleared and gritted, as appropriate.

1. We monitor weather forecasts closely and take advice from a range of agencies. In exceptional circumstances, the Headteacher may decide in advance to close the school. This is done in consultation with the Trust. Every effort is made to give notice the night before, but if conditions worsen, the decision to close the school will be made in the morning. Notice of a closure will be sent by text to the number we hold for parents and carers. We will also update our website and inform Oldham Council who also add school closures to their website.
2. Early dismissal. Once children are in school, their safety is the school's responsibility. Even if the weather is bad, it is often better to wait until the end of the school day, so children can go home as normal. If reports indicate that travel will become more difficult, the Headteacher may take the decision to close school early. Parents and carers will be advised by text of a closure. The website will also be updated. Telephone calls will be made to parents and carers of children that have not been collected.

Responsibility of parents and carers

1. Parents and carers must ensure that their child is properly dressed during bad weather. i.e. that they have a coat and sensible shoes, boots or wellingtons.
2. Ensure access to their mobile phone or the internet to check for information and updates from school. (To note: We ask parents and carers to avoid telephoning school to ask if we are closing where possible. We will inform parents as soon as we have any information).
3. The law requires that children on roll at a school must attend. However, if conditions in the morning are very severe in the local area or home area, and transport is affected, the parent or carer must take the decision about whether to send their child to school. In law this must be recorded as an 'unauthorised' absence.

In Summary

Please be assured that we will not put the safety of any child, family, or staff member at risk. We will keep parents and carers up to date with any information via text messages and the website.