

# Severe Weather Procedure

Created 01/11/2013

Reviewed November 2017

Ratified by FGB on 09/12/2021

To be reviewed Autumn 2024

Finance, Audit and Risk Committee to oversee

If it is deemed there is severe weather (i.e. heavy snowfall), the following procedure will apply.

To keep up-to-date with the latest announcements staff, parents/carers and pupils should check:

- Communication sent from either [admin@flitchgreen.net](mailto:admin@flitchgreen.net) or ParentMail account  
The academy will update parents and staff via ParentMail as often as necessary throughout the period of severe weather.
- The Flitch Green Academy Website  
The academy website will be updated as often as necessary throughout the period of severe weather.
- The Flitch Green Academy Twitter account  
The academy Twitter account will be updated as often as necessary throughout the period of severe weather.
- The Flitch Green Academy Facebook account  
The academy Facebook account will be updated as often as necessary throughout the period of severe weather.

Staff should arrive at the normal time if it is safe to do so, and supervise pupils arriving at the academy and see them safely straight into class at 08:45. If staff are unable to attend they must follow their own absence reporting procedure.

To maintain pupil safety, we will allow play in freshly fallen snow as long as the necessary wet weather gear is worn (waterproofs, wellington boots, hats, gloves etc...). Outside play will not be permitted in icy conditions.

Academy staff will do all they can to ensure that appropriate paths are cut out of the snow and grit laid on icy patches.

Each individual family must make a decision about sending pupils to school in difficult snow conditions, as local conditions can vary considerably.

There will be no after school clubs or meetings during periods of severe weather unless there has been a considerable improvement during the day. We will communicate our position clearly via the modes of communication listed above.

In the event of worsening weather conditions during the academy day necessitating closure, we will give as much notice as possible and communicate this decision by the modes of communication listed above. Staff will work together to ensure that all pupils are collected from the academy by a responsible adult. No pupils will be allowed to walk home alone during periods of severe weather.

### Further information: Academy Closure

The decision to close the academy rests with the Principal and the leadership team. The academy will only be closed as a last resort e.g. travelling becoming hazardous, or if the site is not safe for pupils and staff.

If it is deemed appropriate the Principal and leadership team may choose to open the academy at a delayed time of 10:00 to allow staff and families not on Fritch Green additional time to travel to the academy.

Once a decision has been made the leadership team will aim to communicate with all parents and staff by 07:00, via the modes of communication listed above.

Notice to re-open after a closure period due to severe weather will be given using the modes of communication listed above.