

# Adverse Weather and Snow Policy

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<b>Reviewed By</b>	DR
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**WYCHWOOD**  
SCHOOL • OXFORD

## Introduction

Wychwood School recognises the risk to the school community posed, directly or indirectly, by adverse weather conditions. However, Wychwood is a boarding school and has a duty to our boarders so will not normally close during periods of adverse weather. Day pupils and staff are expected to attend where it is safe to do so but must not place themselves or others in danger.

## Procedures

1. The school will remain open unless it suffers a serious interruption to infrastructure or one of its major services that would make it unsafe to operate (such as a major interruption to its power supply). In such circumstances the *Major Incident and Business Continuity Plan* will be implemented.
2. Pupils and staff should follow [Met Office](#) guidance issued with any severe weather warnings and adhere to recommendations around travel.
2. Any pupil or member of staff who can safely get to school should do so. If the severe weather (such as significant ice or snowfall) looks set to continue or worsen during the day, parents and staff should also bear in mind the journey back home. If they are in any doubt then we would fully understand them not setting out for school.
3. On days where travel is significantly disrupted, we may not operate a normal timetable, depending on how many staff and children from each year group are able to attend. Classes may be combined and an alternative programme may be devised. Where possible, we will endeavour to run a programme as close to the normal timetable as possible.
4. Where travel is disrupted, parents may wish to give permission for their child to leave school early by independent means. In any event, it is vital that parents contact the school to let us know. It is also vital that the pupil signs out as normal.
5. Boarders will remain in residence (like the school itself, boarding houses will not close) and in the event that any day pupil cannot get home due to travel disruption (e.g. road closures or train cancellations) the School will endeavour to provide overnight accommodation.
6. If for some reason the Senior Leadership Group make the decision to close the School during the course of the day, the *Major Incident and Business Continuity Plan* would be implemented and parents would be informed by the school. This would only be the case if the School becomes unsafe for any reason (see 1.) or significant adverse weather is imminent and pupils/staff need to travel home immediately for their safety.
7. Regular updates will be shown on our website and we will also email parents with regular bulletins about any disruption to the school day and other associated activities (such as parent evenings).

The School's priority is the safety of our community. If you are concerned about travel safety, then we would advise you not to travel. Ultimately, we recognise that only you can make this judgement and whatever you decide, we will be understanding and supportive.