



Abbots Ripton Church of England Primary School
Wennington Road Abbots Ripton Huntingdon PE28 2LT

Tel: (01487) 773318

Email: office@abbotsripton.cambs.sch.uk

Website: www.abbotsripton.cambs.sch.uk

Headteacher : **Mrs Claire Matthews**

Deputy Headteacher : **Mrs Lorna Blackhurst**

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Dear Parents/carers

What follows is our plan in the event of snow to ensure that we can keep the school open as much as possible. Whenever possible we will keep the school open but we must also be realistic about health and safety issues.

The Head teacher always makes a decision daily about whether the school will be able to open. The main factors are the ability of staff to get into school as well as the safety/conditions in and around the school building, given the weather. Once this decision is made it cannot be reversed, even if weather conditions improve as the decision is made based on the information that we have at the time and with enough notice to allow parents to make childcare arrangements if necessary.

Our plan is as follows:

1. If there is a decision to close, this will be posted on the school website by 7:15 am. We will also email parents who receive the electronic communications. The secretary of STARS will also post this on the STARS Facebook page.
2. If we remain open on snow days we will reduce the entrances in and around the school and will ask that all children come straight into school upon arrival. The main path from the road to the reception will be cleared as will a path from the first gate in the car park directly across the school field. A pathway will be marked allowing the children to walk directly to the back entrance of the school by the kitchen.
3. It is advised that all children wear appropriate sensible footwear such as snow boots or wellington boots to help avoid slipping and to be dressed for enjoying the snow! On snow days please send in a spare pair of shoes to be worn inside as well as a spare pair of socks/tights.
4. Children who arrive by bus will be greeted at the gate by a teacher and escorted to the main reception.
5. At the end of school, if the playground and paths are still covered in snow/ice, all children will be dismissed straight onto the back field allowing parents to use the cleared pathway.

We hope parents and carers will support this practical approach.

Many thanks for your support,

Claire Matthews
Headteacher



Together with God's help we: grow in Faith Learn for Life and Achieve our best.