



KESTON PRIMARY SCHOOL

Headteacher: Mrs. C. Murphy, BA, PGCE, NPQH
Part of PACE Academy Trust

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29th January 2019

Dear Parents and Carers,

Severe Weather Arrangements

The Met Office have issued the following weather warning:

Snow, possibly heavy at times, developing overnight Tuesday and into Wednesday. Turning icy.

- *There is a small chance of travel delays on roads with some stranded vehicles and passengers, along with delayed or cancelled rail and air travel*
- *There is a small chance that power cuts will occur and other services, such as mobile phone coverage, may be affected*
- *There is a slight chance that some rural communities could become cut off*
- *A chance of injuries from slips and falls on icy surfaces*
- *A chance that untreated pavements and cycle paths become impassable because of black ice*

Therefore, it is clear that this week may present challenges to the normal running of the school. The presumption is that Keston will remain open during severe weather conditions, unless an assessment of risks shows that it would not be in the best interests of pupils and staff for the school to remain open.

The health, safety and welfare of our pupils and staff is paramount and therefore we will take a proportionate approach to managing such risks; for example, the ability for staff to safely travel into school in icy and snowy conditions, having a sensible ratio of adults present in school to teach the children, the ability to feed the children, and the general factors such as the capacity to clear safe paths into school and keep these clear during the day/s.

The expectation is for all children to attend school this week. Should the decision be taken to close the school, this information will be communicated to you as soon as is practicably possible. This information will be provided in the following ways:

- A message will be sent via the school texting and email service
- On the school website, on the ticker tape banner on the home page.

Please do ensure you check at least one of these options before setting out for school in adverse weather.

If the playground is particularly icy we will be unable to grit the whole area before the start of school. A pathway from the main gate to the year 5/6 entrance will be gritted and we would ask all parents to keep to this path and send their children in via this entrance – staff and year 6 pupils will be available to escort the infants to the appropriate area of the school. The nursery path will be gritted for entry into the nursery building only – please do not use this entrance for the rest of the school as you would have to pass through non gritted areas.

Kind regards

Mrs Claire Murphy
Headteacher

