



# **Acklam Whin Primary School**

## **Snow Policy**

**Reviewed: December 2017**

In the event of snowy and/or icy weather conditions, the following will apply:

### Grit.

The school main entrance pathways will be gritted in order to avoid 'black ice' or slippery walkways. Playgrounds will not be gritted as a general rule a) because to do so would be prohibitively expensive and b) should fresh snow, sleet or ice be imminent, the salt/grit merely washes away or freezes.

Under the right circumstances, we will always try to grit clear pathways around school and through the playgrounds.

There is a need for parents and children to take additional care when conditions underfoot are difficult and we ask that all parents reinforce this with their children.

### Starting the school day.

The school doors will be opened early in extreme weather conditions where the health and safety of the children and their overall well-being could be compromised. Children will be allowed in school from around 8.40am and, as a consequence, we strongly recommend that children should not be on the yards prior to 8.40am at the earliest, particularly when the weather is at its worst. Should the surface of the playground make it impractical to line up the children we ask parents to support us in ensuring that children enter school in a controlled and safe manner.

### Breaktimes.

When conditions are extreme and where snow or ice affect the surface condition of the playgrounds the children will spend their break and lunchtime in school, engaged in play and social activities. This will continue until conditions have been deemed to be suitable for the children to play outside. When the snow is fresh and conditions allow, class teachers may choose to take their classes outside to enjoy the snow; where the children

have appropriate warm clothing and suitable footwear e.g. boots/wellies.

### School Closure.

We will endeavour to keep school open in all circumstances. In the extreme situation of having to close the school, parents will be informed as quickly as possible via our App, Marvellous Me, Twitter and Facebook as well as via the local media.

### Travel to and from school.

The safety of our children, families and staff is always paramount. In inclement weather we request that all concerned take additional care on journeys to and from school. If families or staff are experiencing difficulties in reaching school we request that contact is made with school at the earliest possible opportunity.