

Adverse Weather Policy

Introduction

At Little Stars Pre-school we want to ensure our Pre-school is prepared for all weather conditions that might affect the safety of the children and staff or the running of the Pre-school such as floods, snow and heatwaves.

Purpose

The purpose of this policy is to set out how the Pre-school deals with adverse weather conditions occurring during, prior to, or forecast for, a Pre-school session.

If any of these incident's impact on the ability of the Pre-school to open or operate, we will contact parents via phone/Email and website

Adverse weather during a Pre-school session

We will not take children outdoors where we judge that weather conditions make it unsafe to do so.

In the case of a flood, we will follow our critical incident procedure to enable all children and staff to be safe and continuity of care to be planned for.

In the event that the Pre-school determines that due to the adverse weather it is unsafe to continue with the session, or that the weather will cause problems with going home from Pre-school, a decision to close the Pre-school early may be taken.

- In the event of a planned closure during the Pre-school day, we will contact all parents to arrange for collection of their child.
- Sufficient staff will remain at the Pre-school until the children have been collected.

Adverse weather prior to a Pre-school session

If there has been adverse weather prior to the Pre-school session, then:

- If this will directly compromise the safety of the children or staff for the session, then a decision not to open the Pre-school will be taken
- There could be issues with staff being unable to reach the Pre-school for work.
 - In the event of staff shortages due to snow or other severe weather, we will contact all available off-duty staff to try to ensure the minimum staff:child ratios
 - If we are unable to achieve the ratios, or if feel the safety, health or welfare of the children is compromised then we will take the decision to close the Pre-school.

In the event of a decision to close the Pre-school prior to the Pre-school day, we will attempt to contact parents directly as soon as possible by phone, and also to notify by Email and via the website.

Forecast of adverse weather

If high snowfall, or another severe weather condition such as dense fog, is forecast to occur during a Pre-school day then the Manager will take the decision as to whether to close the Pre-school prior to the session. This decision will take into account the safety of the children, their parents and the staff team.

In the event of a decision to close the Pre-school prior to the Pre-school day, we will attempt to contact parents directly as soon as possible by phone, and also to notify by Email and via the website.

Review / Version Control				
Review period - 3 years				
Version	Created	Reviewed	Initials	Changes
Adverse Weather Policy (v1.0)	03/2020			
		09/2021	DH AP	-
Adverse Weather Policy - Oct24 - v1.1	10/2024		DH AP	Changed template and version control. No changes to wording
Adverse Weather Policy – v2.0	10/2025		DH AP	Reworded for clarity