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Ref. AGS/SC

December 2016

Dear Parents/Carers

Arrangements for Severe Weather Conditions

The School policy is to remain open for learning unless external circumstances force closure. When students come into school they are always expected to attend lessons and participate in a full curriculum. Please remind them to bring books/resources for lessons. In severe weather conditions, it is possible that students will arrive later and therefore the start of period 1 may be delayed. There may be occasions when the lunch hour will be shortened to enable a full five lessons to be delivered and a 3.00 pm finish leaving extra time for travel at the end of the day. If contract buses are running, we will endeavour to arrange for them to arrive at the early closure time, whenever possible.

In the event of severe weather conditions please check the school website. Assume the school is open unless you see the red banner on the website which will come up if necessary between 6.45 am and 7.00 am each day, once all the essential services and the safety of the school site has been checked. If circumstances change, the website will be updated throughout the day. There is no need for any student to telephone home without the direction of an adult and we would ask that parents/carers check the website rather than telephone for updates. This leaves the telephone system available for emergencies and the day-to-day business of the school.

In order to ensure parents/carers are kept fully informed of any developing situation, we will continue to use text messaging. This is very effective for the vast majority of parents. It does however rely on mobile telephone numbers being updated regularly. Please ensure that you have sent in any changes to your contact details. In this way we hope to reduce anxiety by sharing information quickly and efficiently.

When the school is open in severe weather we ask parents/carers to make a decision as to the safety of the journey to and from school. This is a reflection of the very wide area from which our students are drawn and the extreme variation in local conditions that can be experienced. In addition please talk through with your daughter/son any changes in travel arrangements and ensure they have keys, money, contact numbers, etc before they set out. On our part we will always check that each student has a planned route and resources, before releasing students during severe weather.

We believe that it is always important for students to attend school and take part in learning and we will continue to make every effort to provide an appropriate learning experience for them despite external conditions.

Public Examinations

In the event of severe weather, students should assume that their examinations will still take place.

Even if the school is closed, we will still hold examinations as scheduled. This is because the examination boards require all examinations to be sat on the same day nationally.

If a student misses an examination due to severe weather, they will have to wait until the next season to re-sit and they may be charged a re-sit fee. (In view of this, you may wish to arrange for

your daughter/son to stay with a friend or relative who lives in closer proximity to the school, if appropriate.)

We look forward to your continued support during the severe weather in sending your daughters/sons to school and demonstrating the shared value we all have for their education.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'A G SHARPE', written in a cursive style.

A G SHARPE
Head Teacher