

## **Maidenhill Primary School and Nursery Class**



### **Adverse Weather Contingency- October 2019**

During the winter months adverse weather conditions, most usually associated with snow and ice, can occasionally have an impact on the normal running of the school day.

In such conditions, our janitor has the responsibility to ensure a minimum of at least one path has been cleared and salted to allow access to the school and nursery class. A path to access the front entrance will be prioritised, with any subsequent paths cleared only if time and conditions permit. School staff will always be present at the start and end of each affected day to ensure children and visitors know which entrance to access and exit to leave by.

#### **School Closure (where the decision is made before 8.55 am)**

On very rare occasions the school and/ or nursery class may not open if weather conditions have been assessed by the Head Teacher, East Renfrewshire's Education Department and Health and Safety Officers to be hazardous. If the decision not to open the school is made before 8.55 am, this information will be published on the Latest News blog on our website and on our Twitter feed. This information is also usually posted on East Renfrewshire Council's website and social media feeds. If we have access to our school office, then we may also be able to e-mail parents/ carers but this obviously cannot be guaranteed.

In the event of a partial closure (where only some classes can be accommodated) we will prioritise our older classes where children have increased independence in their learning routines. Classes will be prioritised in the following order: P4/5, P3, P2, P1, Nursery.

#### **School Shutdown (where the decision is made during the course of a school/ nursery class day)**

On the even rarer occasion that it becomes necessary to shut down the school and/ or nursery class during the course of a day, parents and carers will be contacted immediately by e-mail/ text. This decision will only be taken by the Head Teacher in full consultation with East Renfrewshire Education Department and guided by the department's Revised Standard Circular 10b. This information will also be posted on the Latest News blog on our website and on our Twitter feed.

Children will only be released from school/ nursery when collected by a parent/ carer or an adult identified as an emergency contact on the annual data return. Parents/ carers may only nominate another adult to collect their child by directly contacting our school office by telephone.

School staff will ensure appropriate adult-child ratios at all times with the Leadership Team remaining in school until all children have been collected.

Following a full assessment of the situation, arrangements for re-opening the school and/ or nursery class will be posted on our website and Twitter feed. If we are able to access our school office then we may also be able to e-mail parents and carers about re-opening arrangements, although this cannot be guaranteed. Parents are advised to monitor our website and Twitter feed at regular intervals.

### **Travel by Bus/ Taxi**

Our office staff will maintain contact with transport providers to check on the availability of buses/ taxis during adverse weather conditions. We will be guided by transport providers regarding the feasibility of transporting children by bus/ taxi in adverse weather conditions. We will communicate their guidance through the channels previously described. If buses and taxis are not operating in the event of a school shutdown, then those children who normally travel by bus/ taxi will be accommodated in school until they are collected by an appropriate adult.

### **Adverse Weather Learning Activities**

Our class teachers will suggest a selection of activities that children can carry out at home in the event of a school closure. These will be available from our school website under the Adverse Weather tab.