

# Chapelgreen Primary School & Nursery Class



## Severe Weather Arrangements, Winter weather conditions & Learning Activities

November 2018



Dear Parent/Carer

Each year the Authority asks schools to share their severe weather plans with parents/carers. I have incorporated this information into this booklet along with answers to some commonly asked questions which I hope you will find helpful. I have also included some information about keeping your child safe when attending school/nursery during winter weather. If you require any further information, please contact the school/nursery.

Kind Regards

Siobhan McLeod  
Head Teacher



We aim to keep everyone safe in the icy/snowy weather. Sometimes the safe way is not always the most convenient way but I hope everyone will appreciate that we need to make a plan that meets the needs of all pupils in our school and nursery. Please note: The school is not responsible for the pavement or road outside the school.

#### Attending school during winter weather conditions

During ice and heavy snow, the janitor will grit and/or clear a pathway from the pedestrian gate on Mill Road, down the path to the nursery and the P1-3 entrance.

**Entering - Pupils should enter the school playground via the pedestrian gate on Mill Road** and use the cleared pathway to walk to the nursery and to the P1-3 entrance. During these weather conditions, all pupils, including P4-7 will enter the school building through the P1-3 entrance. Please remind children they need to stick to the path for their safety.

**Exiting -** Pupils will exit school building from the P1-3 entrance and walk up the path to the pedestrian gate.

Please note: We will be unable to accommodate access/exit from the Meadowside Road gate during this weather. Pupils should not enter/exit the school via the car park.

#### Wet Clothing

It would be helpful to have a change of clothes, particularly socks and joggers/leggings during winter weather conditions. Clothing may get wet on the journey to school or if children are learning or playing outdoors. Please ensure your child wears appropriate clothing and footwear for the conditions and still wears the school colours/uniform under the many layers. Thank you.

## Emergency Arrangements in the Event of Severe Weather or Closure

From time to time, circumstances arise which can lead to the emergency closure of Education & Families establishments. Examples of such circumstances include severely inclement weather, abnormal temperatures, burst pipes and disruption to fuel, power or water supplies. The guiding principles in such circumstances should be the safety and welfare of all users of the building at all times and the minimum disruption to the normal service.

At Chapelgreen Primary & Nursery Class, we will do our best to minimise disruption through good communication and working together to follow the advice given. Please remember, that it is extremely important for the school/nursery to have your current mobile telephone number.

Here are some commonly asked questions:



### **What happens if I cannot get my child to school because of the weather?**

Please contact the school/nursery in the normal manner before 9.30am to let us know. Please leave a message on the answering machine if no one is available to take your call.

### **How will I know if the school will be closed?**

This information will be communicated to you in the following ways:

- Radio - North Lanarkshire will contact local radio stations to announce any school closures;
- Website - North Lanarkshire has a winter weather update page to notify you of any school closures. [www.northlanarkshire.gov.uk](http://www.northlanarkshire.gov.uk)
- School Blog - google 'Chapelgreen Primary Glow Blog'
- School Twitter Account - [https://twitter.com/chapelgreen\\_ps](https://twitter.com/chapelgreen_ps)
- Direct to your email address
- School SMS Text Messages - *We have prepared and saved standard texts for use during severe weather and these will be sent to you as soon as possible. Please note that due to the high volume of text messages being sent out during severe weather, there may be times when the messages are delayed centrally. There is a limited amount of characters allowed in each text. Here are examples of the texts you may be sent:*

Please enter and exit Chapelgreen Primary school via the pedestrian gate and P1-3 door. Thanks SMcL

Chapelgreen Primary will be closing at 1pm. Please make your way to collect your child. Thanks. S McL

You can also set up an alert from NLC about severe weather through twitter or facebook.

### **What will happen if I am unable to collect my child on time due to the weather?**

Depending on how long you will be delayed, it may be possible for school staff to keep your child at school/nursery a little while longer. If you will be delayed for a length of time a follow-up plan should be put in place. This might involve contacting a relative or neighbour to collect your child and take them home until you can collect your child from there. The school/nursery and your child should be aware of what a follow-up plan might be. *I have included a plan for you to complete and discuss with your child and then return it to school/nursery.*

### **What happens if the school/nursery closes early and I cannot make it on time to pick my child up?**

***Please do not panic! No child will be dismissed until collected by a designated adult.*** It is North Lanarkshire Council Policy that all primary school-aged children **must be collected** in severe weather. Nursery children are always collected by a named adult.

### **Can my child come into the school as soon as they arrive in the playground?**

If your child arrives at 8.45am or after, they will be able to enter the school. If earlier, they will need to wait. We do have a Breakfast Club which children can access from 8.15-8.45am but they will be expected to have breakfast. Staff can be affected by severe weather too. On days of extreme severe weather, the breakfast club may not be fully staffed. We will do our best though to keep you informed.

### **What if I am collecting my child from the nursery and the school?**

Collect your nursery-aged child first and then wait for your older children. This means you are able to keep an eye on all your children rather than leaving older ones outside, or trying to take them into the nursery cloakroom which is very compact. Once you collect your children from the school/nursery, you are responsible for their safety.

### **What can my child do if the school/nursery is closed?**

We will suggest some activities for your child to continue with their learning. This will be based on skills or knowledge that pupils have previously been taught that they can use in the context of the weather. Please do not feel that your child must complete all of these as you may plan to do other activities with your child. Children learn in many different ways. Talking and doing things together provide positive experiences for your child. Read, write and count is a great website too.

We will also be able to use our school blog to post activities or communicate about learning but I am aware that not everyone has access to this, so please find some ideas within the tables that follow.

## General Activities 1

Write a story about.... Footprints in the snow. Where did they come from? Where did they go? Who or what made them?	Draw what you see when you look out of your window.	Create a winter scene with different art materials.	Keep a diary about the weather and make a graph to display the information.	Cut out snowflakes and find out how many lines of symmetry it has.
Make a bird cake for the birds.	Look for animal tracks outdoors and guess the animal.	Build a snowman with your family and post a photo on twitter.	Write or draw a set of instructions for building a snowman.	Make a snow angel in the snow.
Put a cup of snow indoors and a cup outdoors. Predict which one will melt first and talk about why this happened.	Use lego or blocks to make an igloo or snow plough	Fill an ice-cube bag with water and leave it outdoors in really cold weather. What do you think will happen?	Write a poem about the weather using your senses.	<a href="http://www.topmarks.co.uk">www.topmarks.co.uk</a>  <a href="http://www.science-sparks.com">www.science-sparks.com</a>

## General Activities 2

Draw a hat and scarf and decorate it with a pattern.	Use each letter of the alphabet to write a winter-themed word	Write your numbers in the snow.	Write your spelling words in the snow.	Go for a winter walk and talk about what you see.
Design a poster to stay away from icy ponds.	Put salt down on the snow to see what happens.	Find out some interesting facts about winter weather.	Write about a person who helps us during the winter.	Go outside and have fun. Keep yourself safe!
Read some winter themed stories and poems.	Research arctic animals.	Make up a song about how winter makes you feel.	Make a thank you card.	How many snowballs can you make in 1, 2, 5 minutes?

## Literacy: Nursery

Read to your child and ask them to retell the story.	Talk about the favourite part of a story and why.	Clap and chant along to nursery rhymes.	Practise cutting skills using an old catalogue.	Build a snowman. Talk about what you did first, then, next.
Use cotton wool and other materials to make a snowman picture.	Play a simple board game.	Pair the socks. Sort the cutlery.	Write your name or letters and numbers in the snow.	Play a fun game on the ipad/computer. Play a game of cards.

## Literacy P1 & 2

Read to your child and asking them to retell the story.	Talk about the favourite part of a story and why.	Go through your child's words and phonemes.	Go on a word hunt and cut these out of newspapers and magazines.	Make a picture alphabet cutting out pictures to match each sound,
Write a description of a snowman.	Read out a sentence for your child to write.	Draw a picture about a story and write a short sentence or more.	Write an acrostic poem with the word 'winter'.	Make a snow angel in the snow.

## Literacy P3 & 4

Share a story and ask your child what happened at the beginning, middle and end.	Talk about the character in the story or something important that happened.	Write a description about the character in the book or the event.	Go on a grammar hunt! How many nouns can you find in your book, in a comic etc.	Design a new front cover for your book and write 4-5 sentences to describe what the book is about.
Write a set of instructions for making a sandwich.	Write a story about a favourite toy.	Practise reading and writing words with your phonemes	Act out a part of a story.	Make puppets to tell your story.

## Literacy P5 - 7

Read a story and tell someone what it was about and what you enjoyed most about it.	Talk about the main character in the book (or event) and write a description.	Write a review of the book - what was it about, who was in it, would you read it? Why?	Write a story about a subject of your choice creating atmosphere.	Design a new front cover for your book and write 4-5 sentences to describe what the book is about.
Write a set of instructions/take photographs for making a sandwich.	Make a fact-file about a topic you are interested in.	Practise your handwriting, copying out a song or poem.	Play literacy games on topmarks website.	Spell out loud and have a competition with someone in your family.

## Nursery: Numeracy/Maths

Counting out objects saying the number names out loud.	Play counting rhyme games - 5 little ducks.	Where is teddy? Place it under, over, behind, in front etc.	Go on a number hunt. How many number 1s, 5s, can you find?	Draw/cut out objects to match numbers to 5.
Go on a shape hunt. How many circles can you find, squares?	Have fun in the snow and count the snowballs.	Count out cutlery when helping to set the table.	Put prices on toys and play shops. Make everything 1p.	Play a board game, wait your turn, and count the spots on the dice.

## Numeracy/Maths P1 & 2

Counting backwards and forwards to 10 and then 20.	Make a number line and find the numbers before and after.	How many number stories can you make for 5, 10, 15, 20?	Go on a number hunt. How many can you find?	Draw/cut out objects to match numbers.
Go on a shape hunt. How many can you find? Make a graph.	Name the 3d shapes you can see outside the window.	Days of the week/months of the year - put these in order.	Put prices on toys and play shops.	Play a board game and use your counting skills. <b>SUMDOG</b>

## Numeracy P3 & 4

Count up in 2s, 5s, 10s, 50s. How high can you go?	Choose 3 - 4 digits. How many numbers can you make?	Practise your times tables and get someone to test you.	Play a maths game on the computer/lpad.	Play a board game with your family. <b>SUMDOG</b>
How many ways can you make 50?	Get a 1-minute timer. How many times can you hop /jump in a minute?	How many ways can you order the colours blue, green, red and yellow?	Find objects that have two or more lines of symmetry.	Practise mental addition and subtraction and check with a calculator.

## Numeracy P5 - 7

Get a set of playing cards and put out two. Work out multiplication of those 2 cards. Play with a partner, first to answer the sum wins the cards.	19573 - how many numbers can you make from these digits? Next, put them in order from highest - smallest.	Multiply the numbers below by 3, 5, 8. 2540 4009 3912 3086 4092 5034	How many 10,000 are in the numbers below? 3498235 308031 6093821 8629032	What time will it be 4.5hrs after: 7.50pm 2.40am 6.30pm 10.40am 11.50pm
Display this information in a graph: 15 people wore yellow hats; 24 wore green; 50 wore blue 36 wore red hats.	5 3 6 2 0 4 9 8 1 Repeat this pattern 5 times. What number is 20 <sup>th</sup> in the pattern? 36 <sup>th</sup> ? 42 <sup>nd</sup> ?	Find a half of: 244, 502, 68 Find a quarter of 342, 125, 1025	Round to the nearest 1000. 789 3023 5190 8901	Choose 5 colours. How many ways can you order these?  <b>SUMDOG</b>

## Severe Weather Contingency Plan 2018/19

Name of child/ren: \_\_\_\_\_

Who can collect your child/ren?

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If none of the above can attend to collect your child/ren, please note your follow - up plan below.

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I have shared this plan with my child/ren.

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Please return this plan to school/nursery as soon as possible but no later than Monday 3rd December 2018.

Thank you.