

Wallace Fields Infant School and Nursery



Parents Adverse Weather & Snow Policy

Wallace Fields Infant School is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment.

Reviewed: January 2020

Next Review: January 2023

Wallace Fields Infant School is proud to be a part of Inspiration Academy Trust.



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Document History

Date	Version	Amended By	Comment (e.g. reason for version change)
16.11.15	1	Ceri Jewell	Annual policy review
28.11.15	1	Nicky Mann	Updates and amendments to policy
24.01.19	1	Nicky Mann	Updates and amendments to policy
14.01.20	1	Ceri Jewell	Annual Policy Check
22.01.20	1	Nicky Mann	Following Governing Board Recommendation – amendment

Every winter brings the possibility of snow and ice and can cause widespread and prolonged disruption. The school aims to remain open in the event of snow; however, there are certain factors which may lead to the school closing:

- There are not enough members of staff to be able to provide satisfactory education
- The severity of the weather conditions is on such a major scale that it is unlikely that many staff or pupils will be able to physically make it into school
- The school are unable to provide lunch for the children
- The school grounds are not sufficiently safe for children, parents and staff
- The school has insufficient heating, lighting and hot water across the site
- External agencies, e.g. police, local government, motoring organisations, etc. are advising against school travel in our region

In the event of heavy snowfall, we cannot guarantee a normal school day. If the school is to be open, we will declare this a 'Snow Day' and will post this on our school Website and Facebook page.

If, for the reasons outlined above, the safest judgment is to close the school, a 'Closure Day' will be declared and we will post this on the school Website, Facebook page and Surrey Council School Closure site.

Snow Policy – FAQs

Will parents be contacted in the event of snow?

Parents will not be contacted directly by the school, unless the decision is taken during the school day to close the school. It is important however, for parents to regularly check the following sites for real time updates:

- www.wfis.co.uk
- [WFIS Facebook Page](#)
- Direct email to parents
- [Surrey School Closures](#)

We aim to make a decision by 07:30am if the school is closed.

Do I need to contact the School?

There is no need to contact the school regarding your decision to travel or not; this will help avoid blocked phone lines.

What should my child wear to school in the snow?

Children will not be expected to wear school uniform when there is snow and can wear clothes most suitable for the weather such as warm clothes (eg jogging bottoms) and shoes (eg snow boots / wellington boots)

Should I travel to school?

Parents should decide whether it is safe for them to make the journey to and from school. If the school is open, and once we have established which pupils we have on site, we will construct a schedule for the day which will include, where possible, relevant academic work and a range of activities aimed at making the day as educational as possible. A range of educational activities will also be available on the school's website for children who are not in attendance at schools that day.

Does it matter what time we arrive at school?

No. We will expect children to arrive throughout the morning. It is important however, that children sign in and register at the front office, or with the member of staff on duty.

What will happen if heavy snow arrives during the school day?

We may declare a 'Snow Day' which means the school closing as the normal end of school day for your child, or in some instances we may ask parents to collect their child part way through a school day if possible. Parents who are unable to collect their child at this time will be able to collect them at the end of the school day, even though the school has closed earlier in the day. This would be communicated to you via email, the website and Facebook. If you wish to collect your child(ren) from school before this time, you are welcome to do so, but please ensure they are signed out.

When should I collect my child?

School will close at the normal end of the school day on Snow Days, unless we take the decision to close during the school day itself. Parents are welcome to collect at an earlier time if this suits them, but they must sign their child out. Anyone struggling to collect their child by the normal end of school day due to poor road conditions, transport arrangements, etc, should contact the school to inform us of the likely collection time.

Where do I go to collect my child?

On arrival to the school, please report to the front office who will direct you as appropriate.

Will there be after school activities?

After school activities will carry on as usual, unless the decision is taken to close the school during the day. Should you be delayed in collecting your child, please ring the school office to keep us informed. As always, we will look after the children until you are able to get here, but please remember that members of staff will be also be anxious to get home if the weather and road conditions are poor.