



Whiteley Preschool Adverse Policy

During periods of adverse weather, we must ensure the health and safety of the children, staff, parents, and visitors entering the preschool. Adverse weather includes conditions such as snow, ice, high winds, extreme cold weather and a heatwave.

We will endeavour to open the preschool if the safety of everyone involved is not compromised. However, in the event the preschools' ability to open or to operate a normal service is affected, we will contact parents via *EY Log, phone, SMS message, Facebook or the Whiteley Preschool Website.

To support the opening of the preschool we will:

- Undertake on-going risk assessments throughout the day with regards to the building and the safety of the outside areas etc., so that areas can be closed / cordoned off if necessary.
- Work with the site managers to ensure areas of danger are gritted / entrances and exits (including fire exits) to the preschool are cleared and safe to use.

During these times we may offer a flexible start/finish time to allow for safer travel for parents and staff. If some staff are unable to access the preschool, we will endeavour to open with limited staff; ratios must still be maintained. Please be aware we will not be able to accept all the children if ratios cannot be met.

The decision to close the preschool is not taken lightly, but may be made in the following circumstances:

- When it is deemed unsafe for children/staff to access the preschool site (after a heavy overnight fall of snow, time may be needed to clear access routes and make the site safe).
- If there is a failure with the community centre heating/water.
- When there are likely to be significant difficulties for pupils and staff to make their way safely to and from the preschool due to local road conditions.
- When there are significant difficulties for an adequate number of staff to travel safely to and from preschool due to road conditions.
- When the headteacher feels it is unsafe to access the site or when we are told to close by our governing bodies.

During extreme hot days a decision may be made to keep the children indoors for a period of their day. They will be offered a drink regularly and encouraged to cool down when needed. Sun cream and sunhats must be worn by the children in hot weather.

Parents should ensure they keep emergency contact details up to date. An attempt to contact you individually may be made in the event of a closure.

This policy was reviewed on 17th May 2023

Date: 1st September 2012 Signed: Chairperson