



## **Emergency Closure Procedures**

Each year we send out this information to inform you of what happens at our school in the event of an emergency closure. This is usually due to extreme weather conditions, but could also be due to security alerts, national emergencies, etc.

### **Weather Conditions**

Kibworth Mead Academy serves a wide area of 170sq km and some students live in remote places. From experiences we know how quickly roads can become impassable in bad weather, particularly in the east of the area.

Please may I remind parents/carers that the final decision to send children to school in snowy weather rests with them unless a school closure notice has been issued. We expect that the guidance issued by County Council is followed "if the school remains open. This states that if, the bus is late, you should wait for 20 minutes after the bus was due to arrive at the pick-up point..." We accept that bus companies must decide if they should risk sending vehicles. It is very important to note that, in snowy weather, if a bus company does not send a vehicle in the morning it will not send one in the evening. If parents/carers decide to bring their children to school in snowy weather, they have to pick up in the afternoon at 3.00pm.

If you have any doubt, please contact the passenger transport helpline 0116 3050002 at County Hall. If the weather seriously deteriorates during the day, we send for the buses and get the children home whilst the roads are open. It is usually the case that we have been alerted by anxious parent/carers or by the bus companies themselves. We cannot take chances that later, children could be stranded in remote places.

### **Emergency Closures**

If the decision is taken to close the school before the start of the day to weather conditions or another emergency, the information will be sent to Radio Leicester 104.9FM, in accordance with Local Authority (LA) guidelines. You should tune into this radio station for this information and regular updates. A school closure list can also be viewed via [www.bbc.co.uk/leicester](http://www.bbc.co.uk/leicester) (NB you need to refresh page regularly). If the school is closed from 7.15am onwards messages will also be posted on our website and sent through our text messaging service. Please note, the school will be closed to all students and staff and so we cannot accept any responsibilities for your child. You will need to have your children plans in place for such exceptional circumstances. If we have to close the school during the course of the day for the same reasons, it is important that you agree in advance with your child what they should do if they are sent home early (e.g. stay at home, go to a relative/neighbour, etc). If there are any problems and we need to contact parents/carers, please ensure that we have your up to date phone numbers and contact details. Can I stress, these situations may not arise, but it is as well to plan for them. A copy of this information may be viewed via our website.

Please avoid telephoning the school. In the event of an emergency telephone lines may be required for emergency services, or may not be operational.

I have read and understood the procedures above regarding the arrangements at Kibworth Mead Academy in the event of an emergency closure. I am aware that my child may be sent home early without notice and that, if the bus does not run in the morning, it will not run in the evening. My child understands where to go in the event of the school closing early for any type of emergency.