



Discovery Drive Kings Hill West Malling Kent ME19 4GJ

T: 01732 847000

Headteacher - Miss Tina Gobell

Deputy Headteacher - Miss Jenny Baker

E - office@discovery.kent.sch.uk

Website - www.discovery.kent.sch.uk

Tuesday 7th January 2025

Dear Parents and Carers,

Severe Weather Arrangements 2024-2025

Welcome back to the new school term; I hope you all had a lovely Christmas with your children and families and everyone at The Discovery School wishes you a very happy New Year!

Following the light flurry of snow on Saturday and the weather forecast for this week, it seems timely to provide a reminder of our severe weather procedure.

If at all possible, The Discovery School will stay open during all weathers. On occasions however, the School may need to close, e.g. in the event of heavy snowfall. If this is the case, a message will go out on local radio stations before the start of the school day. A list of school closures can also be found at www.kentclosures.co.uk.

Local Radio information is given out on:

- Radio Kent (96.7 FM, 97.6 FM or 104.2 FM)
- Heart FM Radio (103.1 – 102.8 FM)
- KMFM Radio (96.2 – 107.9 FM)

We will also display a message on the home page of our school website (www.discovery.kent.sch.uk) and an email will also be sent via SchoolComms to inform parents of the current situation. There is also a link on the 'About Us' page of the website which will take you to an area where useful information will be listed.

<https://www.discovery.kent.sch.uk/about-us/severe-weather/>

If the School is closed, work will be set for the children to complete at home - as well as having time to play in the snow!

We will always aim to make a decision to close as early as possible on each day of potential school closure, as we do not want parents and children to travel unnecessarily. However, assessing whether we have enough adults in school to open can take a while, particularly as we are a large school and most of our staff do not live within walking distance. This is further complicated by localised snow conditions and disruption to public transport. In order to assist us in making a decision as early as possible and communicating this to you, please **DO NOT** contact the school by telephone to find out if the school is open. This blocks the phone line and hinders the school from assessing the situation.

If a decision to close cannot be made the night before, we will always aim to make a decision and inform you between 6.30 a.m. and 7.00 a.m. on the day of any closure.



2020-2023





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We recognise that some parents may have difficult journeys to school and that you have the responsibility of getting your child/children to and from school safely. You will need to decide if the journey is safe when severe weather affects driving and/or walking conditions, but please inform the school (after 8.00 a.m.) if your child is to be absent due to severe weather conditions.

If the school should have to close during the school day because of deteriorating weather conditions, parents/carers will be informed via SchoolComms (text).

On occasions, school meal services may be affected by weather conditions, although we would expect this to be carefully managed by Caterlink.

In the event that the School remains open and we have sufficient snow for the children to play with outside, wellington boots or an old pair of shoes is essential! A change of socks/tights will also be useful. Unfortunately, those children who do not have a change of footwear will be unable to play outside in snowy conditions.

Kind regards,

Miss T Gobell
Headteacher



Wellbeing Award
for Schools

2020-2023

