

December 2017

Dear Parents and Carers,

Severe Snow/Ice Plan for Parents and Families

Every winter brings the possibility of snow and ice. Extreme bad weather can cause widespread and prolonged disruption. Schools are often affected and it can be difficult to maintain an education service. As a fundamental principle every effort must be made to keep schools open, even if only limited numbers of pupils can attend. However schools may close due to 'unavoidable' circumstances. Those circumstances being that it is no longer safe for staff or pupils to be onsite.

We recognise that it is important our school remains open so parents are able to work and pupils can continue to learn. St Paul's Infant School will make every effort to prepare for severe snow/ice this winter by gritting pathways, clearing access points etc.

How will we let you know if the school is closed?

If we do experience severe snow/ice resulting in hazardous conditions, the Headteacher may have to take the decision to close the school. Once this decision has been made we will notify parents via the Kent Closures website. To determine whether St Paul's Infant School is open or closed please visit www.kentclosures.co.uk. Search for the school in the search box. The Kent Closures website can also be used to find out if other services in Kent are open or closed, such as nurseries, children's centres and libraries. We also recommend parents sign up for SMS/Email alerts on the Kent Closures website. This service will send an SMS or email alert to let parents know if St Paul's Infant School is closed. A text message will also be sent via Parentmail. Parents can also listen to KMFM, BBC Radio Kent or Heart FM to hear if the school has closed.

What can you do to help?

- Please visit www.kent.gov.uk/winter for more information about gritting routes and travel issues around Kent so you can plan your journey.
- Please approach the school via the main entrance if there is snow.
- Don't forget suitable warm clothing – gloves, hats, scarves, wellies etc. or even a change of clothing.

Yours sincerely

Miss J Oakley, Headteacher