



GEORGE ABBOT SCHOOL

Policy Title:	Adverse Weather – Information and Guidance for Students and Parents	
Author:	School Business Manager	
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School Mission Statement:	Academic excellence within a strong community of equality and respect, where potential and opportunity are realised.	

Adverse Weather – Information and Guidance for Students

When weather is extreme and the school is open, the school faces a number of challenges:

- Staff and students arriving at school and on time; ensuring all classes are supervised.
- Health and safety on the school site; snow and ice can be hazardous and movement between buildings brings a significant amount of water into the school which can result in slips.
- Supervision of students at break and lunch time when being outside is too cold or unsafe.

The school will endeavour to communicate up to date information with parents by Schoolcomms, the School website, Twitter or local radio. However, in principle when **there is snow on the ground:**

- Students may wear mufti **appropriate for cold weather.**
- The field and playgrounds are out of bounds and students should go to appropriate wet weather venues on arrival to school.
- Students will remain inside at break and lunch time and should not throw snowballs or slide on ice.
- The school day may in the event of worsening weather finish earlier than 3pm.
- Supervision will be provided for students unable to go home in Elmslie Conference Room (ECR) or for those who are waiting for the school buses in the Gallery (subway buses) or Raynham Canteen (Raynham Buses).

Please note:

- In the event of the school needing to close early due to unforeseen circumstances (flood, no power, water etc.) a message will be put on the school website and sent by Schoolcomms and students allowed to leave the site before the end of the day.
- The students would be dismissed by a class teacher and no students may leave the site unless this has happened.
- If students are walking home, where possible they should do so with others in case of an accident.

Distance Learning

In the event of school (early) closures, students are able to support their learning at home by completing work set on the SLE (Student Learning Environment).

Students are expected to check their Teams accounts and also Satchel One where details of work set will be shared. If the closure is for an extended period, we would resume teaching via Teams.

Students are expected to log on to their email accounts to check what work has been set by staff.

In the event of deteriorating weather or a need to change plans, KCC will communicate with staff via an all staff email.

Communication

The School will use the methods below to inform parents about changes to the school day in the event of adverse weather conditions:

- Schoolcomms
- School Website: www.georgeabbot.surrey.sch.uk
- Twitter: www.twitter.com/gabbot_news
- County Council: <http://new.surreycc.gov.uk/schools-and-learning/schools/school-closures>
- In addition, the following will be notified for their broadcasts:
 - BBC Radio Surrey Tel: 01483 734712 Email: surrey@bbc.co.uk

Please note: Students will be asked to make contact with a responsible adult to alert them to the fact they are leaving school, but George Abbot will not formally check that this has been done.

Attendance/Punctuality

The school appreciates that during bad weather children may arrive later than normal; parents should endeavour to contact the School to let them know they are on their way if likely to be delayed.

Examinations

With the new examination schedule, it is highly unlikely that any examinations will be affected by severe weather. However, in any event where examinations might be disrupted, the school will post appropriate information on the school website.

Site Safety

In the event of snow, some pathways will be cleared and salted. Parents/carers, students and visitors will be made aware that pathways, even where cleared, do remain dangerous. Students will also be reminded of this in assembly and asked to walk only on cleared pathways.

Extra-curricular clubs, activities and events

Depending on the weather, it is unlikely that after school/evening activities will take place. Clarification will be made via Schoolcomms, the school website, and information given to students.

How Parents can help

- Check the School website, Schoolcomms, email and listen to BBC Radio Surrey 104.6 FM.
- Plan ahead - advise your child what to do in a bad weather emergency.
- Only call the School if you really have to – calls in prevent calls out!
- Encourage your child/children to carry out the identified school work at home/check school email for work set.

Transport companies

Note: This list is not exhaustive and parents should make sure they ring the appropriate company. George Abbot School bears no responsibility for the accuracy of this information.

Dedicated School Buses

Newtons - 01483 233403

Public Bus Companies which serve the school:

Compass - 01903 690025

White Bus - 01344 882612