



South Avenue Primary School

South Avenue, Sittingbourne, Kent ME10 4SU

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Severe Weather Plan for Parents and Families



Every winter brings the possibility of very high winds, flooding and 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.

"Schools should, wherever possible, stay open in severe weather. They play a key role in their communities and by staying open help both their pupils and parents." - **Department for Education**

Parent and carers have the responsibility of getting children/pupils to school safely and need to decide if the journey is safe when severe weather affects transport and/or walking conditions. Please contact the school on 01795 477750 leaving a message if your child is unable to attend school due to the weather conditions making travel unsafe.

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 that our school remains open so parents are able to work and pupils can continue to learn. South Avenue Primary School will make every effort to prepare for severe snow/ice this winter by gritting pathways and clearing access points. Please ensure your child has appropriate clothing and footwear for icy conditions and that the school has your current contact details, especially your mobile number.

However, if we do experience severe snow/ice resulting in hazardous conditions, the decision may have to be taken to close the school. Once this decision has been made we will notify parents via text message, the information will also be available on the Kent Closures website (www.kentclosures.co.uk). You can also find a list of the schools that are closed on the Heart FM website.

Thank you for reading this information and for helping South Avenue Primary School to remain open during periods of severe weather.

Miss Samantha Fenn
Headteacher