

ADVERSE WEATHER IN WINTER

The safety of students at the school is the primary concern, and all decisions taken have that criterion as their priority. However, working life must go on, and we will not close the school except where children's safety is at risk. In deciding how to manage our response to adverse weather conditions, we are almost entirely dependent on the providers of the buses serving the school. Decisions about closure will be made in conjunction with the various agencies that organise buses that serve the school.

The following guidelines should be observed, please, in readiness for future winters:

- 1 **On Day 1 of snowfall, we will try to be open if the health and safety of students and staff is not compromised. We will post a notice on the school's website by 7.00am stating whether the school is open or closed.**
- 2 Your decision is, whether or not to send your son or daughter to school, and our guidance here is that **LEARNING AND TEACHING MUST GO ON AS NORMALLY AS POSSIBLE**. However, if, in your judgement, your child would be in danger if you sent him or her to school, we would wish you to keep your child at home. Only you can make that decision, and it depends very much on where you live.
- 3 If the school has to close early, or if further snowfall occurs, and we decide to close the school on Day 2 or Day 3 as a result of heavy snow and/or icy conditions, an announcement will be made on RADIO LEEDS and THE PULSE. Announcements are made on a regular basis and parents and students will need to listen at the times specified by the stations. The closure decision will also be posted on the school's website (www.nhgs.co.uk) by 7am on Day 2 or Day 3. It is very unlikely that any students in Years 7 to 11 will be sent home before lunch on the first day of heavy snowfall.
- 4 We understand that some students may arrive late if conditions are difficult, and we prefer lateness to absence.
- 5 All students should come with plans to:
 - use a friend's house as a base from which to make telephone calls
 - walk if necessary
 - pay bus fares if necessary
 - meet parents at a pre-arranged venue.
- 6 Parents should PLEASE, not ring school to find out what the position is re early closure. This simply means that our lines become blocked and no one can ring in or out. Please make your arrangements **IN ADVANCE**: e.g. "If it snows and school closes early, you go to’s house, and you telephone from there."

Please be alert to the weather. Students will be reminded of the need to make arrangements for such eventualities, in advance, during the autumn term.