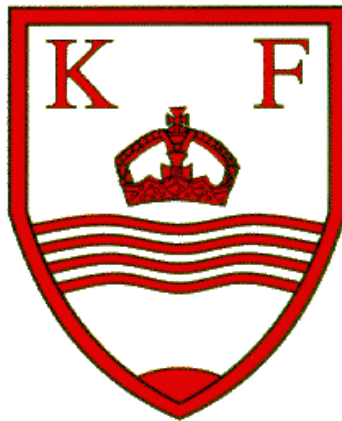


KINGSFLEET PRIMARY SCHOOL

'Be the best you can be!'



Adverse Weather Policy

<i>Date Approved</i>	18.06.26
<i>Chair of Governors</i>	L.Foy
<i>Chair of SHaw</i>	D.Rowe
<i>Head Teacher</i>	K.Beattie
<i>Date of Next Review</i>	18.06.29

1. Policy Statement

The school is committed to ensuring the health, safety and welfare of pupils, staff, visitors and contractors during periods of adverse weather. Adverse weather conditions can present significant risks, and the school will take all reasonably practicable steps to manage these risks while maintaining continuity of education wherever possible.

This policy sets out how the school will prepare for, respond to and recover from adverse weather conditions.

2. Scope

This policy applies to: - All pupils attending the school - All employees (including teaching staff, support staff and site staff) - Volunteers, contractors and visitors

It covers adverse weather conditions including, but not limited to: - Snow and ice - Heavy rain and flooding - High winds and storms - Extreme heat - Extreme cold

3. Legal Framework

This policy is informed by, and complies with, the following UK legislation and guidance:
- Health and Safety at Work etc. Act 1974 - Management of Health and Safety at Work Regulations 1999 - Education Act 2002 (Section 175) - Health and Safety Executive (HSE) guidance - Department for Education (DfE) guidance on school closures and severe weather

4. Responsibilities

The Governing Body will: - Ensure this policy is in place and reviewed regularly

- Support the Headteacher in decisions relating to school closure or restricted operation

The Headteacher is responsible for: - Making decisions regarding partial or full school closure

- Ensuring appropriate risk assessments are undertaken

- Ensuring effective communication with parents, staff and relevant authorities

- Liaising with the Chair of Governors and local authority or trust where required

- Monitor site conditions during adverse weather

- Take reasonable steps to make the site safe (e.g. gritting, clearing access routes)

All employees must:

- Take reasonable care of their own health and safety and that of others

- Follow instructions issued during adverse weather
- Report hazards or concerns promptly

5. Risk Assessment

The school will carry out suitable and sufficient risk assessments to identify hazards associated with adverse weather, including:

- Slips and trips on ice or wet surfaces - Falling objects during high winds
- Flooded access routes
- Heat-related illness during extreme temperatures

Risk assessments will be reviewed as conditions change.

6. Preventive and Control Measures

6.1 Snow and Ice

- Gritting and clearing priority routes where reasonably practicable
- Restricting access to unsafe areas
- Adjusting outdoor activities and break arrangements

6.2 Heavy Rain and Flooding

- Monitoring weather warnings and local conditions
- Preventing access to flooded areas
- Liaising with the local authority or emergency services if required

6.3 High Winds and Storms

- Securing loose items and outdoor equipment
- Restricting outdoor activities
- Closing areas affected by fallen trees or debris

6.4 Extreme Heat

- Adjusting the school day or activities where necessary
- Ensuring access to drinking water
- Encouraging appropriate clothing and sun protection
- Limiting strenuous physical activity

6.5 Extreme Cold

- Ensuring heating systems are operational
- Allowing flexibility in uniform where appropriate
- Monitoring vulnerable pupils and staff

7. School Closure or Restricted Operation

The Headteacher may decide to:

- Keep the school fully open
- Restrict access to certain areas
- Operate with reduced staffing or partial closure - Close the school entirely

Decisions will be based on risk assessments and the ability to ensure safety.

8. Communication

In the event of adverse weather: - Parents and carers will be informed as soon as possible via agreed communication methods (e.g. text message, email, school website)
- Staff will be informed of expectations regarding attendance and duties - The local authority or trust will be notified where required

9. Attendance and Staffing

The school recognises that adverse weather may affect travel. Staff are expected to make reasonable efforts to attend work, but safety must not be compromised.

Absence or lateness due to adverse weather will be managed sensitively and in line with school procedures.

10. Educational Provision During Adverse Weather

Where possible, the school will:

- Remain open and provide on-site education
- Consider remote or alternative learning arrangements if appropriate and feasible

11. Monitoring and Review

This policy will be monitored for effectiveness and reviewed at least every three years. Reviewed following a significant adverse weather incident or change in guidance

12. Related Policies and Documents

- Health and Safety Policy

Approved by: SHaW Committee

