

Calder Vale St. John's CE Primary School

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Dear Parents/Carers,

LCC policy is that the school must be closed in the event that the school premises are not fit for purpose. The fact that the roads are blocked and the yard is full of snow does not mean that we must close. A risk assessment must be undertaken. This covers such things as fire exits and access to the air ambulance service in case of an emergency. In addition to this I have to be reasonably sure that staff are able to get to work.

In the event of heavy overnight snow which may block the access road, either I or one of the governors who lives near to the school will carry out a risk assessment of the premises hopefully before 7.30 a.m. In addition to this I will contact key teaching staff by telephone to assess the likelihood of them being able to get to school.

Breakfast Club – Breakfast Club staff will endeavour to open school at 7.45am, however, please telephone school before setting off with your child to ascertain that staff have been able to get to school. This will ensure that journeys are not made unnecessarily in difficult conditions.

Lancashire Integrated Transport Services will inform parents directly if bus or taxi arrangements are affected. Parents will need to make their own arrangements as to how they get the children to school if the transport service is cancelled.

In the event that the school cannot be opened then parents will be notified by telephone (text or call) that the school is closed. In the event of a school closure we would hope that all parents would be notified by 8.15 a.m. This should hopefully prevent pupils from arriving to find the school is closed.

If the school is closed then any pupil who arrives at Scorton School will be accommodated as best as possible. The same policy will apply in the event that Scorton School is closed and Calder Vale is open. This is LCC policy. Please do not bring children to Scorton unless you have been informed that Calder Vale School is closed.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs Helen Hesketh

