

'Bad Weather' Procedures

We aim to keep the school open when possible, as long as it is safe to do so.

Here is the latest information to update you on procedures should we get a heavy fall of snow.

It is rare that we have to close the school during snow and we will always try to remain open. Please assume that the school will be open and allow extra time to make the journey to school. Most of our members of staff live a fair distance from the school and have, so far, mostly managed to get in. Manningtree High School may choose to close because of their reliance on buses to get students in but this has no bearing on our decision.

We do ensure that we make the most of the snow and children have fun playing in it so please do not feel that they are missing out by coming to school. Whilst we expect children to behave sensibly in the snow at school, we also want them to be able to enjoy it too. If children have wellington boots or similar alternative footwear with them and we feel it is safe, they will be allowed out onto the playground and field at break times. Please ensure that your children come fully prepared on snow days.

If you wish your child to wear boots to walk to school or at playtimes during the winter/bad weather please ensure that children have shoes to change into when they are in school.

We aim to keep the school open when possible, as long as it is safe to do so, however, if we do need to close the school this is the procedure.

- 1. Please check Class Dojo and our Facebook page
- 2. Please look at the <u>Essex County Council website</u> which will publish names of closed schools or schools opening later than usual.

During previous 'snow events' we have attempted to send texts to parents. However, there were problems with the mobile phone networks being unavailable and/or extremely busy and some parents did not receive our text until several hours after it was sent. This was beyond our control but caused considerable confusion.

We will attempt to send an email, but please do not rely on this – Class Dojo and our Facebook page will be the places to check first.

Names of closed schools or late openers are no longer announced on local radio or published on radio station's websites.

Thank you for your support.

AJE Fairbairn