

Polisi Cau’r Ysgol

School Closure Policy

1. **Introduction**

In order to ensure the safety and well being of all pupils and staff it

may be necessary to close or partially close a school for a variety of

reasons including:

* Severe weather including snow, flooding or storms
* Accommodation problems, for example loss of power supply,

heating failures or fire damage.

School should, however, endeavour to remain open where possible.

School contingency plans should be passed on to staff, parents and

pupils.

**1. Closure due to severe weather.**

The decision to close or partially close school will normally rest with

the Headteacher in consultation with the Chair of Governors or if

he/she is unavailable the Vice Chair. The decision should be made

where possible before 7.45 am and on the basis of information

received from the media about weather, supplemented by local

observation, either personally or from staff members better placed to

make such observations and through appropriate external agencies

such as the Met Office. The health and safety of pupils and staff is

the major consideration

Factors involved in reaching the decision to close the school are likely

to be:

* Access to the school, given its location i.e. road conditions

(obstructions, snow, ice, flooding etc).

* Breakdown of school essential services (heating, electrical

services, water, storm damage etc).

* Ability of staff to reach school.

The Headteacher will advise staff, parents and Governors through text, Twitter, school website, local authority website and local radio.

2. **During School Day Closure Guidance.**

On occasions it may be necessary for school to close during the school

day i.e. if the weather is deteriorating and there is doubt as to

whether children can be returned home later in the day. In such cases

the school will ensure that children are collected from school by a

parent or guardian.

3. **Staff attendance.**

Although it is recognised that severe weather conditions make it difficult

for staff to get to and from work, unless advised to the contrary by the

Headteacher, then the expectation is that staff will present themselves

for work.

In certain situations the school could remain closed to pupils but open to

staff.

**5. Clearance of Snow.**

Within the school site, the school is responsible for snow clearance and

the clearing of approach paths is the specific task of the caretaker.

When severe weather is forecast, the caretaker should be tasked to lay

salt and grit on arrival.

The clearance of public roads is the responsibility of the Highways

Department.

If there is any question of children’s safety being at risk, for instance if

they are let out at break time and the playground area is unsafe, school

has a responsibility in inclement weather to keep the children indoors.