



# Helme C E (VA) J & I School

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## School Closure Plan

We are approaching that time of year when snow is mentioned on the weather forecast and we would like to remind you about how we deal with any severe weather or any other reason for school closure.

Whenever possible, the school will remain open. However, if we have severe weather conditions, the Headteacher will make a risk assessment about whether it is safe to open the school to pupils. The school has a significant number of staff that live a good distance from the school and the Headteacher needs to be certain that there will be enough staff in school to supervise the pupils. In the case of overnight or early morning snow/ice, the decision about closure will be made by 7am. It will be posted on the front page of the school website.

The decision will be one of three

- The school is closed (including Breakfast Club)
- The school is open (including Breakfast Club)
- The school will open at 10am to allow staff more time to arrive safely. Breakfast Club will be closed.
- The school will open as usual at 8:50am but Breakfast Club will be closed.

If the school is closed we will:

- Post a message on Twitter and the Helme School website on [www.helmeschool.com](http://www.helmeschool.com)
- Send a text via Parentpay text service (please make sure your contact number is always up to date)
- Inform the Local Authority who will post a message on: [www.kirklees.gov.uk/schoolclosures](http://www.kirklees.gov.uk/schoolclosures) or follow them on [twitter.com/kirkleesschools](https://twitter.com/kirkleesschools)

Closure information will also be shared with the local radio and TV stations for them to use as they wish in their bulletins. You can also check weather and gritting updates at [www.kirklees.gov.uk/winter](http://www.kirklees.gov.uk/winter)

In the case of snow falling during the school day, please be reassured that we will make certain that all the children are safe. We will not close school until all the children have left. To allow staff to get home safely the Headteacher may need to let some staff leave early, in this case we may ask parents to collect children earlier than 3:15pm if they can. We will keep you informed through our usual channels, including the text service.

It is therefore vital that your mobile number is up-to-date on our school data base. Please ensure that you have advised school of any amendments.