

November 2019

Dear Parent and Carer

**ADVICE REGARDING SCHOOL CLOSURE IN ADVERSE WEATHER CONDITIONS  
OR OTHER EMERGENCY SITUATIONS NOVEMBER 2019**

Our first priority is to ensure the safety of our students. Any decisions made regarding school closure or transport will be based on this and applies to both Skircoat Green and Spring Hall sites.

When severe weather conditions develop overnight or early morning a decision will be taken as to whether or not Special School transport and the Yellow Bus Service will run. This decision will be based on local weather conditions, weather bulletins and Police advice. As this is an operational matter the decision will be made by Calderdale Transport Services.

Due to the unpredictable nature of the English climate the weather can change significantly throughout the day. The situation is further compounded by the fact that transport services will not be able to undertake early return journeys until they have the necessary availability of drivers and escorts as some of these personnel have other duties during the day.

I am certain that parents will continue to be supportive of decisions made for safety reasons, even if this does cause some domestic inconvenience. The last thing any of us would want to happen would be a group of our students, including some of a delicate nature or with a serious medical condition, being stranded in a minibus.

**Please find details overleaf of arrangements should it be necessary for transport to be cancelled or school to close.**

Yours sincerely

**M J E MOORMAN**  
**HEADTEACHER**

## School Closure

In the event of school being closed for the day, a text message will be sent via the Teachers2Parents text service. **It is vital that we have an up to date mobile number for the person who is the first priority on the data sheet as this is the person who the message will be sent to.** We are unable to send any other person the message. The message will be sent 7.00 to 7.30 a.m. onwards.

In addition information can be obtained as follows:

- The school website will be updated as close to 7.30 am as possible – [www.ravenscliffe.calderdale.sch.uk](http://www.ravenscliffe.calderdale.sch.uk)
- Calderdale Council website – [www.calderdale.gov.uk/education/closures/index.html](http://www.calderdale.gov.uk/education/closures/index.html) and then click on "Schools" in the Menu box
- BBC RADIO LEEDS (Frequency: Medium Wave 774 or FM 92.4 or 95.3), and THE PULSE (FM 97.5 and 102.5) will also broadcast a detailed list of school closures in the event of bad weather.

Transport Services at Battinson Road have asked that direct requests through their office should not be made to enable telephone lines to remain free so that they can deal appropriately with all operational emergencies during bad weather.

If students have been transported or travelled to school in the morning and the weather deteriorates significantly throughout the day, **you are requested to check the school website which will be updated, or as a last resort, if you have extenuating circumstances, contact the School** for advice.

Further parent texts will be shared with you as and when appropriate/possible.

### Independent Travellers and Yellow Bus Users

If school is closed to students please do not send your son/daughter to school. Independent travellers have also received a separate letter giving information in case they travel home on the Yellow Bus.

Your co-operation with this request is greatly appreciated as you can imagine the staff time and difficulty involved in attempting to contact the parents of 188 students on two sites.

If school has been closed check the School website or ring after 3pm when a message will have been left on the answerphone, for an update on the position regarding the following day.

As concerned parents and carers I feel sure you will support the school in any decision made regarding transport in difficult weather conditions, in the knowledge that such a decision has been taken to minimise the risk to students and staff at the school.

**PLEASE KEEP THIS LETTER TO HAND IN CASE OF ADVERSE WEATHER CONDITIONS**