



All Semley CE VA School policies apply to year R to 6 inclusively or Semley CE VA School Staff	
Name of Policy	Adverse Weather Policy
Agreed by the Governing Body	11/03/2024
Policy published (including on website)	Janaury 2024
Latest revision	Janaury 2024
Next review (date)	Janaury 2026

Adverse Weather procedures for Semley CE VA Primary School

Aims and Objectives

It is the aim of Staff and Governors of Semley CE VA Primary School that the school will stay open wherever possible. However, in the case of adverse weather conditions then it may be safer for the school community for the school to close. The safety of pupils, parents and staff is the main priority when making this decision.

Guidance on School closures from Wiltshire County:

It is the decision of the local school about whether the school is to close for Health and safety reasons in the event of extreme weather. Local variations in weather, routes and access to schools can mean that one school may need to close whilst another stays open. The decision will be based on local circumstances and this is why the School decides not the Local Authority whether a school should close.

Advice that we follow based around advice from Wiltshire Council advises:

- Can the school safely get enough staff to the school to supervise the number of children expected? Having fewer than normal staff is acceptable but there is an expectation that activities may have to be adjusted accordingly. Can staff make it to school safely? Without there being significant and exceptional risk.
- Is the internal environment safe and comfortable for pupils and staff to be in? Allowances should be made for the fact that it may take some time to reach the correct temperature. The absence of any outside break is acceptable for a short period of extreme weather.
- Are staff and pupils able to get around the site safely? Account should be taken of the access roads and pavement around the school. It is acceptable to restrict access points around the school if they are unsafe.

If the school has to close:

- Parents will be informed by 7:15am if the school is to close – this will be via both email and text. It is also posted on the school website.
- Please do not phone the school office as there will be no one manning the phones or they will be needed to make emergency phone calls. The usual admin email is the best way to contact the school during this time.
- The school will remain closed until it is safe for it to be opened. Parents will be kept informed by text and email.
- Please note that the roads entering the village approaching the school will still be most likely be icy and dangerous to drive on.
- If the weather conditions change during the school day and it is necessary to close then again you will be contacted via email and message. As usual our collection policy will remain the same and children will only be allowed to leave with people on their list of contacts or if the parent/carer has contacted the school.
- Please ensure that your children come to school with the appropriate clothing for the weather.

School premises maintenance:

- The school will endeavor to grit common entrances however, there is no caretaker attached to the school so there is no guarantee that this will be possible, every care should be taken by parents, children and staff on entering the school playground.
- If the playground is considered too slippery because of adverse weather then the playtimes will be inside, decision made by Head Teacher if we feel that there is a risk to the safety of the children.

The safety of pupils, staff and parents is of the highest priority to the school and will be the main factor when deciding if the school should remain open.