



# Bishop Hedley Catholic High School



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Dear Parent/Carer,

9<sup>th</sup> January 2017

**RE: Health & Safety in Times of Inclement Weather**

We are now at that time in the school year when weather conditions can become very poor and hazardous. I sincerely hope that we are fortunate again this year and snowy/icy conditions do not affect us but, in case of poor weather and dangerous conditions, I would ask you to follow the recommendations outlined below;

- a) If any medium-heavy snowfall has taken place, please listen to Radio Wales or look at the Merthyr Council website to find out whether the school is to be open on the day. If you are in doubt keep your son/daughter at home until you are certain the school is to open.
- b) If conditions are snowy and the weather forecast is one which states that conditions are likely to deteriorate through the day it may also be best to keep your son/daughter at home.
- c) Throughout the winter please make sure that your son/daughter has a house key in his/her possession and therefore, always has access to the home. Once pupils are in school we will do everything possible to keep them here. There have been occasions, however, when falls of snow have occurred once the pupils are at school and we find ourselves with the difficult decision to make as to whether it would be most sensible to contact the bus companies, parents etc and get pupils home while conditions allow it or to retain pupils in school until the end of the school day with the uncertainty of getting pupils home if conditions do, in fact, get worse.

This is always a difficult decision to make because conditions may or may not deteriorate. After discussing the matter with the Governing Body we have decided that an early decision based on known weather information will be taken, to err on the side of caution and ensure all pupils are as safe as we can make them. When we are in doubt about how the weather will turn out we may, therefore, decide to arrange for school to close early and for pupils to be transported as necessary.

I thank you for taking the time to read this memorandum. To summarise I would say that if you are in doubt about the weather in times of snow and it looks as if the weather conditions may pose problems later on in the day then keep your son/daughter at home. At all other times send them to school.

Yours sincerely,

**Mrs. M E Harris**  
**HEADTEACHER**

