



2025

Emergency Closure/Adverse Weather Policy



Board of Management

Scoil Mhuire Réalt na Mara

Emergency Closure/Adverse Weather Policy

During extreme weather conditions, the following procedures apply in our school:

1. We will attempt to keep the school open as long as we can safely get the children into the school buildings and that we have sufficient staff, heat, electricity and water. Our water depends on electricity as it comes from a well.
2. Please assume that the school will open unless you are notified by text that it is closed. Texts regarding a closure will be sent at the earliest possible opportunity to allow you to make alternative arrangements. In many cases, it may not be possible to send a text regarding closure until that morning. Decisions in relation to school closures are very difficult to make. Conditions can deteriorate/ improve rapidly and therefore decisions regarding closures/openings can often only be made that morning. We therefore ask for your patience on such occasions. All decisions will be made in good faith. Emergency school closures will also be communicated through local radio.
3. On days when the school is open, parents should exercise their own judgment on whether they can get their children safely to and from school. We will attempt to provide a safe pathway from the gates into the school building on such days.
4. On frosty mornings, please exercise extreme caution. Footpaths and the walkways are particularly prone to ice.
5. If your child takes the bus, we ask that you give your contact details to the company/driver involved so that you are contactable by them. The school cannot be responsible for decisions made by individual bus companies or drivers as to whether they will travel in inclement weather. The same text that goes to parents in the event of school closure will go to the bus companies. Please note also that school buses (Bus Éireann) will not run in the event of any Status Red weather warning."

This policy was ratified at the meeting of the Board of Management on 4th December 2025.

This policy will be reviewed as part of the school policy plan in 2027 or before if necessary.

Padraig O'Brien
Chairperson BOM
4th December 2025

Úna Gallinagh
Principal