



# Gaelscoil an Chaistil

5, Bóthar na hÁithe, Baile an Chaistil, BT54 6QQ

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A thuismitheoir, a chara,

## **Drochaimsir**

Mar is eol duit, tá drochaimsir tuartha faoi láthair. Seo thíos cur chuige na scoile i gcásanna mar seo.

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## **Extreme weather conditions**

As you are aware, extreme weather is forecast at the moment. Please find below a summary of the school's procedures for dealing with such events.

Le gach dea-ghui,  
Brídín Ní Dhonngaile

## **Guidance for parents in the event of extreme weather conditions.**

### **Please keep this in a safe place**

### **Please ensure that school has up to date telephone numbers for your family.**

**Our default position is that we open each day as normal.** However, my staff and I have to take some things into consideration which may result in the closure of the school during periods of snowy weather.

## **Safety of the children**

Staff who live in and around Ballycastle keep me updated on the weather situation in the town.

I use the BBC Newsline service to check the status of the other Ballycastle schools. Therefore, if Ballycastle is snowbound, it is highly unlikely that a vast majority of children could come to school and the decision would be made to close for that day.

## **Safety of staff**

Staff who live some distance away – Carey, Maghera, Loughguile, Martinstown – keep me updated on the weather situation where they live and whether or not they feel that they can access the school.

The decision to close would be made if there weren't enough teachers to ensure a beneficial and worthwhile school day for the children.

## **Other health and safety matters**

If both staff and pupils are able to get to school and on arrival we find that there has been an electricity failure; frozen pipes; no provision of a hot midday meal; or the weather begins to worsen, we will then decide whether or not to send children home again. If this happens, we will use our new text service to inform you. We can only

text one parent/carer per family and therefore it is important that we have up to date contact numbers.

In conclusion, I would ask that you assume that the school will be open each day. The **BBC Newsline service** will display updates regarding school closures if the weather does worsen.

I would urge you to keep an eye on it. This information is updated regularly and if the school is not mentioned, you can assume that we'll be open.

If severe weather is forecast, please go to the following for school closure updates:

- <http://www.bbc.co.uk/ninews>
- Northern Ireland news through the interactive red button
- School website – [www.gaelscoilanchaistil.com](http://www.gaelscoilanchaistil.com)
- School Facebook page