



**Subject:** Important Information – Adverse Weather Procedures – Storm, Ice and Snow

**Dear Parent / Guardian,**

As you may be aware, a **yellow weather warning** has been issued for this evening and tomorrow morning. With the possibility of further wintry conditions in the coming days, we would like to remind you of the school's procedures during periods of adverse weather.

At **Omagh County Primary School and Nursery**, we will always endeavour to remain open. The only circumstances that would prevent this are:

- If we are instructed to close by the **Department of Education**, or
- If local conditions meet our **risk assessment threshold**, making it unsafe to open.

We are fortunate that our main entrance is on the main road, enabling safer access during poor weather. The front entrance path to the main building will be cleared and salted in icy or snowy conditions.

### **Key Points to Note**

#### **Car Park and Pathways**

- The **back school car park will not be salted** and we would advise parents not to use this area to drop off or collect your child in case of ice. Only use the **front entrance gate** for drop off.
- Footpaths in the back car park will be salted, although they may not be fully cleared of snow. The immediate area around the pedestrian gate on the Campsie Road will also be salted.

#### **Travelling to School**

Weather conditions can vary significantly across our catchment area. Please allow extra time for your journey and use your own judgement when deciding whether it is safe to travel, particularly if:

- You walk a considerable distance on untreated pavements.
- You live in a rural location,
- Roads near your home have not been treated, or
- Your vehicle is not suited to winter conditions.

### **Pupil Footwear**

On snowy days, pupils may wear PE kits, **wellington boots or suitable outdoor shoes** to school and bring a pair of school shoes to change into once inside.

### **Communication of Closures**

If the school needs to close or close early, we will communicate this via:

1. **The School Comms App** (primary method)
2. Our **school website**
3. Our **social media platforms- PTFA Facebook Page**

Please ensure you remain logged into the App so you can receive notifications promptly.

### **Early Collection if Conditions Worsen**

If conditions deteriorate in your area during the school day, you may:

- Collect your child early, or
- If you have children in different classes, complete one collection at **1.45pm** with younger siblings.

**Your child will not be marked late or penalised for early collection under such circumstances.**

Thank you for your continued support in helping us keep all members of our school community safe during adverse weather.

**Yours sincerely,**

Jill Funston

Principal