

THE PROCEDURES FOR EMERGENCY SCHOOL CLOSURE

December 2024



There are times when severe weather or other circumstances potentially put the children and staff at risk, and an emergency closure must be considered.

BEFORE SCHOOL HAS OPENED

Any decision to close will be communicated via the media listed below, by 7.30 a.m. if at all possible.

**When the school is closed, parents and carers will receive notification
IN THE FIRST INSTANCE by a school-wide notification on StudyBugs.**



Parents are urged to install this app on their devices.

The following channels of communication will also be used, dependent on time and internet access:

- Gloucestershire Schools Closure site
<https://www.gloucestershire.gov.uk/closures/> - includes X (Twitter) feed, follow @Glos_schools
- Our school website <https://www.rosaryschool.org.uk/>
- Local radio

A new decision will be made for each day of the closure. Information on the school's status will be updated using the Local Authority web site and our website will be updated on a regular basis.

In the event of snow, the Head Teacher will consult with staff living locally to our school, and decide on the course of action to adopt, in the interests of the safety and education of the children and the safety of staff. **Even if school is 'open', staff and children should only travel if it is safe to do so.**

EMERGENCY SCHOOL CLOSURE DURING THE SCHOOL DAY

If, in the interests of safety, a decision is made to close the school during the working day, staff will do their utmost to ensure this information is shared via the above media. Phone calls may be made from the school office, so **please ensure that your contact details are correct.** We will always maintain sufficient staff at school to supervise children who are waiting to be collected. Parents are advised that our 'local' circumstances may be very different from those where you work. It is helpful if parents, in advance, discuss their wishes with older children who already have permission to walk home alone, especially if a closure means that there is no supervision at home.

School may distribute snow-related ideas via Seesaw if children are short of an idea or two on how to use the time purposefully!

In the event of a prolonged closure our 'Remote Teaching and Learning' Policy will take precedence and parents will be alerted to our expectations directly.

If the school does close, this is NOT counted as an absence for the children.