

St Joseph's Catholic Primary School

At St Joseph's we work, learn and grow together guided by Jesus' teachings



CRC Article 29(goals of education)

Education must develop every child's personality, talents and abilities to the full. It must encourage the child's respect for human rights, as well as respect for their parents, their own and other cultures, and the environment.

Bad Weather and Snow Policy

How to find out about our school being closed

If the weather is very bad we sometimes have to close the school. The list below shows you the places to check for information in order of preference, always start first with the school website:

- 1, The school website will be updated with a message at the top of the page to say if we are open or closed – the most reliable place to look and the place we update first.
- 2, We will send text messages to parents – this is also a good way of finding out but sometimes the networks are busy with texts on snow days and there can be a delay in your message being received.
- 3, We will post a message on the Dudley Council website – this is updated very quickly and is a good place to look.
- 4, We will try to put messages on the Radio Stations and their websites: Free Radio Birmingham, Free Radio Black Country and Shropshire, Heart / Capital FM and BBC Radio WM – this is a less reliable place to check as it can take us a long time to get through to the radio stations when it is a busy snow morning!

When we will let you know if we are open or closed

We will always try to let you know about a school closure as quickly as we possibly can and if the decision has to be made before school starts we aim to have all of the information on the website and texts sent no later than 7am. Wherever possible we will make the announcement the night before but this can be very difficult if it hasn't started to snow. By 7am in the morning you should be able to find out one way or the other.

What if the school has to close early?

If we open the school we will do our best to stay open until 3.15pm. We may stay open but give you the opportunity to collect your child early if you prefer.

If the snow is getting very bad we may need to close the school and ask you to come and collect your children early. Please make a back up plan just in case the school closes part way through the day.

Is it safe to travel to school?

If the school is open in heavy snow we will advise you about our flexible opening times whereby you can

drop the children off a bit later and pick them up a bit earlier to reduce traffic congestion and minimise accidents on the road. It is always the parent's decision as to whether or not it is safe to travel to school in very bad snow. Please travel safely and ensure your child/ren are properly dressed and in safe footwear. Please don't take risks and don't feel rushed to make it on time in bad weather. Please drive / walk / travel safely.