

08.02.21

Caulfield Road, Shoeburyness, Essex, SS3 9LL

Telephone: (01702) 292286

E-mail: [schooloffice@shoeburyness.southend.sch.uk](mailto:schooloffice@shoeburyness.southend.sch.uk)

Website: [www.shoeburynesshigh.co.uk](http://www.shoeburynesshigh.co.uk)

Headteacher: Ms. C. Costello

Dear Parents/Carers

## Snow Closure

In the event of disruption caused by heavy snow, the prime concern of the Trust is to always ensure the safety of the pupils and staff in our schools.

However, if the weather is not serious enough to close a school and the school remains **open**, the decision whether or not to send a pupil to school must be at the discretion of the parents. However, the expectation is that pupils who live within walking distance should attend; during the current COVID restrictions this will, of course, only apply to those students who are attending school as part of the key worker provision.

**The Trust's aim is for the schools to remain open in the event of snow. However, there are certain factors which may lead to any or all of our schools closing, such as whether:**

- enough staff are able to journey to and from school safely in order to provide safe care for the children;
- the severity of the weather conditions is such that it is unlikely that sufficient senior staff are able to get into school to open safely;
- the school has sufficient heating, lighting and hot water to function appropriately;
- the school can provide lunch for the children;
- following an assessment of the site, the school grounds are considered safe for children, parents and staff;
- external agencies, e.g. police, local government, motoring organisations, etc. are advising against school travel in our area.

If any of our schools are to be closed we will declare this a '**Snow Day**' and will send a communication (whichever way each school normally does) as soon as possible and normally by 7.30am on the day. The school/s will also notify parents via the website and school app as well as by the local radio stations' announcements.

In the current pandemic, we have excellent remote learning provision already in place. This will automatically be accessed by pupils who are normally in school at this time, but who are not able to because of the school closure or their parents/carers exercise their right to keep them at home.



Frequently Asked Questions



### **To travel to school or not?**

Parents have to decide whether it is safe for them to make the journey into school.

As we are currently in a pandemic and there are restrictions on site, we ask that you arrive at the normal times for dropping off and collecting your children. **There will not be adults available to come to the front gate at other times.**

### **Do I need to contact the school?**

Should parents make the decision not to bring their children to school **if the school is open**, please let the office know as you would normally.

### **What will happen if heavy snow arrives during the school day?**

When a school is open, it will remain open until the end of the normal school day, unless weather conditions deteriorate. If that is the case, a decision will be made as soon as possible as to whether the school will be closing early. This information will be immediately communicated to parents by text message/school app/and on the school website.

### **Will parents/carers be contacted in the event of snow?**

We will update our website: [www.shoeburynesshigh.co.uk](http://www.shoeburynesshigh.co.uk), normally by 7:30am on the day to provide information to parents/carers to inform them whether the school will be open or closed in the event of a snow or school closure day. The school will also notify parents via the local radio announcements: Heart FM, BBC Essex and Southend Radio as soon as possible and normally by 7:30am.

Best Wishes

**Clare Costello**  
**Headteacher**