

## **Colburn Community Primary School**

### **Guidance for Parents/Carers in the Case of Bad Weather**

The Headteacher and school staff work hard to keep the school open wherever possible. It is our policy to remain open unless we are forced to close because there is a risk to the health and safety of staff and students in school.

In case of inclement weather, parents should make the decision about whether or not it is safe for their children to come to school in the morning or leave early during the day. If you decide to keep your child at home, call the school office by 9:45 am.

If we are closed, parents/carers will be informed in the following ways:

Once the Headteacher or in his/her absence the Deputy Headteacher have made the decision to close their school they will inform the local radio station covering the area in which the school is located and ask them to broadcast a message to parents.

The local radio stations used to broadcast school closure information for North Yorkshire include:

- **BBC Tees** - 95.0 FM - [www.bbc.co.uk/tees](http://www.bbc.co.uk/tees)
- **BBC York and North Yorkshire** - 95.5 FM 103.7 FM or 104.3 FM - [www.bbc.co.uk/york](http://www.bbc.co.uk/york)
- **TFM Radio** - 96.6 FM - [www.tfmradio.com](http://www.tfmradio.com)

The following radio stations broadcast information for specific parts of the county:

- **Real Radio** - 100-102 FM
- **Garrison FM** - 106.9 FM
- **Fresh Radio** - 936 AM or 102.8, 107.1 to 107.8 FM
- **Magic FM** - 105.4 FM
- **Star Radio** - 102.5 or 103.4 FM
- **Stray FM** - 97.2 FM
- **Viking FM** - 96.9 FM

The school will also try to update its own website with details regarding closure and will use a text messaging service to contact parents where possible.

School closure is highly unlikely and will be avoided where possible; therefore there is no need to contact the school to check whether or not the school is open. Unless announced as above, we are open!

While we understand parental concerns, it would be helpful if parents/carers were aware of the difficulty for an office responding to literally hundreds of calls. Please do not telephone the school at these times unless there is an emergency.

Should the weather turn worse during a school day, pupils may be sent home early; however children will not be allowed to leave school early without permission from their parent/carer. School staff will endeavor to contact parents or other approved contacts if early closure is necessary to gain permission to allow children to leave. If you believe that your child is at risk of being unable to travel home safely, please contact the school office and make appropriate arrangements.

Should any parent/carer wish to make any alternative arrangements for their child they should put these in writing to the Headteacher.

**This policy has been checked and approved by governors.**

**Last reviewed: October 2016**

**Next review due: October 2017**