



ALBION ACADEMY: ADVERSE WEATHER POLICY

November 2016

It is the policy of the Academy to make every effort to remain open whenever possible.

The decision to close the Academy either before or during the Academy day will be made by the Head Teacher. The Academy will only be closed if one or more of the following conditions apply:

1. Insufficient staff are able to come in to keep the Academy running safely.
2. Conditions on site are dangerous
3. Conditions are considered to be or are anticipated to later become too hazardous for travel.

If the Academy is to close:

- The closure will be announced on local radio stations – BBC Radio, Key 103, Capital Radio =
- The closure will be listed on both the Academy website and the local authority website <http://services.salford.gov.ukdisruption/>

The Academy will make all practicable efforts to keep parents informed as to the situation with the Academy during adverse weather conditions, as we appreciate that such conditions and the uncertainty places very considerable difficulties upon parents.

However parents are expected to check the website and/or make themselves aware of the radio broadcasts when it is clear that a closure is a possibility.

The Academy appreciates that during bad weather children may arrive later than normal; parents should endeavour to contact the Academy to let them know they are on their way if likely to be delayed.

The Academy recognises there will be isolated instances where families are cut off, even where the clear majority of children can get into school. In such instances parents should inform the Academy of the circumstances of this exceptional situation, as the Academy has a duty to clarify the circumstances of each case so as to be able to formally authorise the absence.

Parents acting on the assumption that the Academy would be closed without gaining confirmation, or failing to inform the Academy of the circumstances that prevents the child coming into Academy risks their child being registered as an un-authorised absence.

Where the Academy is officially closed, all absence is counted as authorised absence.

In the event of the Academy having to close during the day due to unforeseen worsening weather or similar unforeseen circumstances, parents will be contacted by phone either at home or work and asked to collect their child/ren. Such an early release will only be contemplated in very extreme circumstances.

In snowy and icy conditions, the Site Team will grit the main pathways, car parks, steps and entrances to the Academy.

Where necessary, essential pathways will be maintained as clear as possible throughout the day.

During adverse weather conditions, some of the grounds may be out of bounds to parents and children at the beginning and end of school, and if the Principal decides it necessary, at breaktimes as well.

In the event that there are adverse weather conditions at a time a national examination is due to take place, the Academy will attempt to open as best it can as national examinations cannot be cancelled. Those staff and students who are able to get to the Academy will be expected to attend. More detailed information will be provided by the Senior Leadership Team should this situation occur.

In the Principal's absence, a member of the Senior Leadership Team on site will assume responsibility for making all decisions relating to the Adverse Weather Policy.