

Extreme Weather Conditions Procedure

The following procedures have been put into place for each individual adverse weather condition:

Heatwave

In the event of a heatwave, the setting will constantly be risk assessing the weather and deciding on how much time the children should be allowed to spend outside. All children will be required to bring the correct clothing and sun cream (please refer to our Sun Care Policy), and extra shade will be provided for the children when they are outside. On top of this, we will encourage the children to drink more water to stay hydrated and have a cool-down zone for when a child starts to get too hot.

Floods

In the event of a flood, the preschool will not be open to ensure the safety of both the children and the staff. If there is a high forecast of heavy rain with a high chance of floods, then the setting will factor in the risks and decide whether to open on the day. In the unlikely event that a flood occurs whilst the setting is open, the parents will be contacted immediately, and all of the children will be taken to our safe place.

Snow

In the event of snow, we will try to keep the preschool open, if possible; this is because snow can be exciting for children and gives them opportunities that would be otherwise difficult to provide. However, in the event of heavy snowfall, the preschool may be forced to close to ensure the safety of the children, parents and staff. If the preschool decides to open and the snowfall worsens, the preschool may choose to close at a set time during the day; in this event, parents will be contacted immediately to collect their child.

Wind

In the event of seriously strong winds we will endeavour to keep the setting open if possible. Risk assessments will be completed to ensure all equipment and trees outside are safe and not likely to blow away or fall down. Any equipment that can be moved inside or into a shed will be to keep safe. If the wind is so strong that a weather warning is put in place not to go outside the setting may have to close. Parents will be contacted as soon as possible after the decision has been made to close.

Staff Shortages

Due to certain weather conditions, staff members may not be able to get to work. In this event, we may contact other team members to see if they can cover for them. If we cannot get enough staff in to meet the legal staff:child ratio, then we may be required to close for the day or only open for children whose parents are key workers.