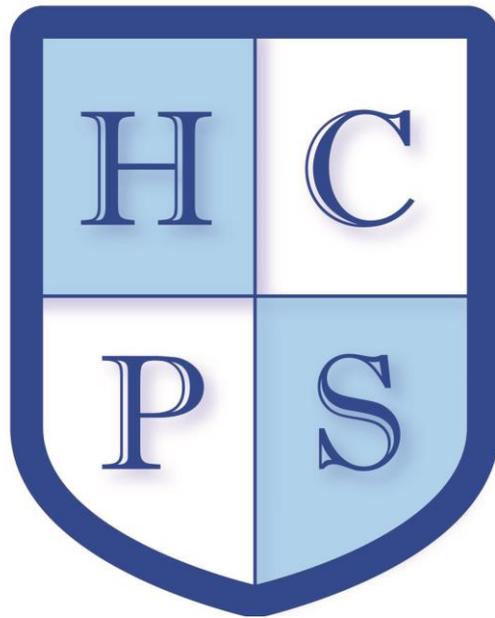


Hunslet Carr Primary School



Emergency Closure

**High Expectations
Caring
Positive Attitudes
Successful**

Reviewed: May 2017

Next review: May 2019

High Expectations, Caring, Positive Attitudes & Successful

STRENGTHS OF OUR SCHOOL



The Children

- Are well behaved, calm and polite
- Are engaged, positive and resilient
- Are supportive and helpful towards others
- Have an input on important decisions
- Have a sense of belonging

The Community

- School supports the whole family not just the child
- Recognises the importance of attendance
- Spreads our growing reputation as a good school
- Helps celebrate the children's achievements
- Supports the school on improving behaviour

The Curriculum

- Is a fun curriculum that is engaging
- Maintains a strong focus on the basic skills
- Is enriched through extra-curricular activities
- Supports our most vulnerable children
- Provides a rich variety of experiences & opportunities

The Staff

- Develop nurturing relationships with children
- Provide good quality teaching and learning
- Support one another to help the children
- Are consistent in how they treat children
- Identify children's SEN needs early

THE CURRICULUM WE HOPE TO PROVIDE



Skills

Fluent and confident in Reading, Writing and Maths
Communicate with confidence
ICT skills fit for the future
Life skills – social, money, time, cooking
Safety skills – Swimming, healthy choices
Problem solving skills – Patience & Resilience

Attitudes

Confident, proud and independent
The believe that 'Impossible is Nothing'
Understand and celebrate a range of cultures
Take responsibility for themselves & others
Be honest and learn from their mistakes
Respectful, caring and helpful

Experiences

To have 1st hand experiences of...
Going away on a residential trip
Visiting a range of places of worship
A chance to look after an animal
Relevant trips to theatres/farms/beaches
Taking part in public performances
Work experiences & further education

Knowledge

High school ready English & maths
To know about local places of interest
To know where we are in the world
Life skills – money, time, cooking
Information about possible careers
To know major historical facts
To know their own strengths

Purpose of the policy

For all people connected with the school to understand how decisions about the emergency closure of the school will be made, what they will be based on and the procedures surrounding the closure of the school.

Adoption

The Local Authority together with the governors is committed to ensuring that the school is open for pupils for the statutory 190 days per school year.

However, it is recognised that there may be times when, for health and safety reasons, it is necessary for there to be an emergency closure.

Emergency closure occurs in exceptional circumstances:

- where there is loss of an essential service to the school which cannot be compensated by alternative provision.
- where damage to a particular part of the school cannot be compensated by alternative provision.
- when there are severe weather conditions adversely affecting access to school.

Emergency school closures close the school for pupils:

- for staff, emergency closure days are working days. As soon as the school is aware of a loss of an essential service, e.g., failure of boiler, or prolonged cut in water or electricity service, the Premises Section should be informed. This section will be able to provide guidance and help which may enable the school to remain open during the loss of the service. If the advice from Premises Section is that the school should be closed, the Headteacher should notify Schools Section and implement the procedure for emergency closure.
- There are times when weather conditions are so severe that the Headteacher may consider that the health and safety of the pupils and staff are best served by closing the school. Under no circumstances will children be sent home early.
- Parents requesting to take their children home early because of the weather conditions will be allowed to do so. In the case of very severe weather, parents and children will be gathered together in the Hall as they arrive at school, a decision will be made regarding the closure of school and an announcement will be made no earlier than 9.15.
- At this point, only accompanied children would be allowed to return home. Any other parents subsequently arranging to collect their children would be allowed to take them. The decision may be made to close the following day because of severe conditions and the weather forecast.
- The LA would be consulted about any intentions to close and parents informed by pupil post. When exceptionally severe weather conditions are forecast for the whole Authority and the police are recommending that only essential journeys should be made, the Chief Education Officer may make a decision to close all the school to pupils the following day.

- The secretaries of KAHSH, KPH, NAHT, SHA, NUT, NASUWT, ATL will be informed of the decision by the LEA. If this decision is made early enough, i.e., prior to 2.30 pm, the Education Service will attempt to contact all Headteachers at school. If the decision is reached later than 2.30 pm, the Education Service will attempt to contact Heads at schools or at home prior to 7.00 pm.
- Aire & Magic 828, Radio Leeds, Pennine FM, Pulse/Classic Gold, Galaxy 105, Real Radio, BBC TV Look North, YTV Calendar, will be contacted by the LA for announcements to be made that evening and the following morning. The announcement will state, "Schools are closed to pupils". It is possible that a number of pupils will attend school because their parents have not heard the announcement; therefore contingency plans for pupils' safety will be made.
- The paramount consideration in the decision to close must be pupil safety. If the school is closed for reasons of loss of essential services, staff must still report for duty and will be deployed by the Headteacher under such circumstances.
- If the reason for closure is severe weather conditions, it must be remembered that it is still a working day for staff. It is expected that those members of teaching staff who can safely get to school, either by walking or other means, will do so. They would then look after any children who were in school or undertake other tasks as deployed by the Headteacher or senior staff.
- The first person to arrive at school will take staff calls in the School's reception; the second person will answer the telephone in the general office. Any member of staff unable to attend if conditions are such that attending is inappropriate or travelling is unsafe, should telephone the school or the Headteacher.
- Consideration will be given to domestic circumstances, travel arrangements and safety of staff. Information about whether school is closed to pupils will be found on the LA website: www.leeds.gov.uk/schoolclosures and will be announced by the media organisations above.
- The Local Authority would normally regard teaching staff as working within directed time in such circumstances and would not therefore see a need to make any salary reduction. The Head may decide that some teaching staff are more effectively employed on school-related tasks at home.
- Administrative staff and classroom support staff may have appropriate tasks to undertake in school. If the closure is for reasons of loss of essential service, they should report for work as normal. If the reason for closure is severe weather, then those who can safely report for duty should do so and will be deployed as necessary.
- APT&C staff have specific local conditions which state that: "When an employee is delayed or prevented from attending work due to inclement weather, public transport disruption or similar circumstances, the Authority does not accept responsibility to pay for hours of work lost. However, the Authority will allow employees in such circumstances to work additional hours to make up any time lost to avoid any

reduction in their salary." This refers to conditions where the employee cannot get to work, rather than the place of work being closed. As previously stated, the prime consideration is the safety of pupils and staff and the policy and procedures should be implemented with reasonableness and common sense prevailing.