

Pound Hill Pre-School Policy and Procedure



8.8 Snow and Adverse Weather Policy

Policy Statement

The safety of our children, practitioners and the families who use our preschool is of the utmost importance to us. We will therefore endeavour to remain open where possible during bad weather conditions, but this will heavily depend upon several circumstances.

Procedures

1) If we are predicted bad weather/ snow we MAY make the decision to close the preschool the following day. In this situation, an email will be sent round to all parents registered on our database (please note this email address is the same one where newsletters are sent) to notify every one of the closures of the preschool and we will endeavour to also publish this on our preschool website

2) If the preschool remains open during bad weather conditions, we will aim to operate as normal for as long as possible. This will however depend upon; how many practitioners are able to safely travel to work, the preschool building inside and outside is accessible and safe, and the temperature is suitable for the children when inside. We cannot and will not remain open unless the minimum correct adult: child ratio can be met. (As per Policy 5.1) Therefore, if the preschool opens and only a certain number of practitioners can work on this day, unfortunately the children that we are able to accept on that day will be based on a first come first serve basis. We will aim to contact other practitioners from our wider team, but we are not able to go over the required ratio number. If this situation happens, we will call families who are due in this day and explain the situation.

3) If the preschool is open as normal and we have bad weather during the day, the Preschool Manager will have the final judgement on whether the preschool remains open for the day and for how long this might be. In their absence, the Deputy Managers will have the final judgement. The safety of everyone accessing the preschool is the most important thing, and if we feel parents need to start collecting their children to get home safely, phone calls will be made to all parents to inform them of our decision.

4) Practitioners will be sent home in order of distance or personal circumstances, but only as and when ratios are correct within the preschool. If a practitioner is unable to attend preschool due to snow, they must contact the Preschool Manager as soon as is practicable to advise of their absence. Any hours not worked will need to be taken as unpaid or the hours made up at an agreeable future date.

Snow can be very exciting for the children, and we like to be able to make these times fun for the children and incorporate learning opportunities. Most of the time the operation of the

preschool can remain normal, but we ask that all parents understand the need for safety when faced with bad weather and where children are attending preschool then dress their children appropriate for the weather.

This policy was adopted by K Platt.....
Role of Signatory Manager.....
DateJuly 2021.....
Date to be reviewed01/09/2022.....