

## **ST. ANNE'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL, BUXTON BAD WEATHER POLICY**

During the winter period we can often expect bad weather, snow and ice in particular, which can result in travelling difficulties. Unlike schools which cater for families in the immediate vicinity, and which can send children home at short notice, our catchment area precludes this.

If there has been heavy snowfall during the night, we would ask parents to use their own judgement regarding the risks involved in travelling to school. Should the roads be treacherous, then buses will not be running and Governors would not want anyone to take a risk travelling in dangerous conditions. If parents decide to bring children to school by car, when they would normally travel by bus, they must then take responsibility for their children's safe travel home. In the event of a deterioration in weather during the school day, any parent who rings school with concerns about transport will be informed that they are welcome to come and collect their children. However, pupils will not be allowed to leave school with their older brothers or sisters from St. Thomas More's without parental permission.

In snowy/icy weather, pupils will come in through the main doors and be dismissed from this point at the end of the day, unless the public footpath at the side of school is clear.

Due to the fact that many of the school staff live outside of Buxton and, in severe weather conditions, may be unable to get into school, it is possible that children may be taught by a different teacher and in a different class area.

In really severe weather conditions, it may be necessary to close the school. This decision would only be made having received updated weather reports, consulting the police and liaising with the Headteacher of St. Thomas More Secondary School. In the event of closure, this information will be transmitted via High Peak Radio in the morning and a notice will be placed on the front page of the school website, accessed at: [www.st-annesrc.derbyshire.sch.uk](http://www.st-annesrc.derbyshire.sch.uk). There will also be a message on the school answer-phone. It would be advisable for parents to check the position before setting off for school.

Whatever the circumstances, it is school policy that no child would be sent home without notifying parents, carers or relatives.

In line with Government guidelines, should parents keep their children at home because of bad weather, the absence will be classed as authorised.

The above information will be conveyed to parents by letter at the appropriate time of year.