



GEORGE ABBOT SCHOOL

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| Policy Title: | Adverse Weather – Information and Guidance for Students and Parents | |
| Author: | Head of Premises | |
| Date of most recent review: | October 2024 | |
| Date of next review: | October 2025 | |
| School Mission Statement: | Academic excellence within a strong community of equality and respect, where potential and opportunity are realised. | |

Adverse Weather snow and ice – Information and Guidance for Students

When weather is extreme and the school is open, the school faces several challenges:

- Staff and students arriving at school and on time; ensuring all classes are supervised.
- Health and safety on the school site; snow and ice can be hazardous and movement between buildings brings a significant amount of water into the school which can result in slips.
- Supervision of students at break and lunch time when being outside is too cold or unsafe.

The school will endeavour to communicate up to date information with parents via MCAS Parent Portal, the School website, Twitter or local radio. However, in principle when **there is snow on the ground:**

- Students may wear mufti **appropriate for cold weather.**
- The field is out of bounds and students should go to their appropriate playground on arrival to school. Should conditions prevent this, the year group team will direct students to an inside venue.
- Students should not throw snowballs or slide on ice. Additional duty staff will be deployed for all breaktimes.
- The school day may in the event of worsening weather finish earlier than 3.15pm.
- If students are unable to go home, supervision will be provided in either USIC or the Gallery.

Please note:

- In the event of the school needing to close early due to unforeseen circumstances (flood, no power, water etc.) a message will be put on the school website and sent via MCAS Parent Portal and students allowed to leave the site before the end of the day.
- The students would be dismissed at the instruction of the Headteacher by a class teacher and no students may leave the site unless this has happened.
- If students are walking home, they are encouraged to do so with others in case of an accident.

Adverse Weather Heat – Information and Guidance for Students and Staff

There is no legal maximum temperature that schools must adhere to. We will work to the framework of guidance offered by agencies such as the Met Office and local Authority. Where a period of hot weather is anticipated we will:

- Ensure blinds are pulled down at the beginning of the school day
- Ensure windows are open at the beginning of the school day to allow for air circulation
- Close windows as temperatures rise throughout the day
- Relocate students and teachers to alternative cooler classrooms
- Ensure there is LED lighting in all classrooms
- Allow the children to seek shade during break time
- Ensure there is access to drinking water both internally and externally
- Allow students to wear PE Kit if temperatures are high
- Review the physical education program if temperatures are high

The site team will start clearing and salting at Elmslie and Raynham gates working towards the main buildings, then the external and internal paths and service road. Playgrounds may need to remain closed throughout the bad weather.

Extra-curricular clubs, activities, and events

Depending on the weather, it is unlikely that after school/evening activities will take place. Clarification will be made via Schoolcomms, the school website, and information given to students.

How Parents can help

- Check the School website, Schoolcomms, and listen to BBC Radio Surrey 104.6 FM.
- Plan ahead - advise your child what to do in a bad weather emergency.
- Only call the school if you really have to – calls in prevent calls out!
- Encourage your child/children to carry out the identified schoolwork at home/check school email for work set.

Transport companies

Note: This list is not exhaustive, and parents should make sure they ring the appropriate company. George Abbot School bears no responsibility for the accuracy of this information.

Dedicated School Buses

Newtons - 01483 233403

Public Bus Companies which serve the school:

Compass - 01903 690025

White Bus - 01344 882612