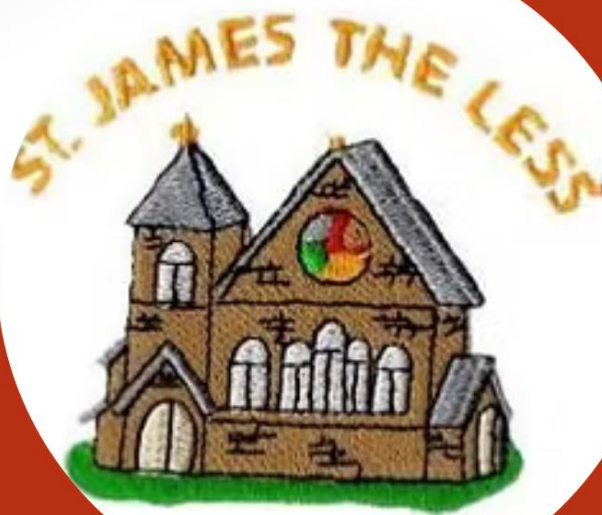


# Severe Weather Policy

2025-26



[www.stjamesthelesschool.co.uk](http://www.stjamesthelesschool.co.uk)

**St James the Less RC Primary**  
**Severe Weather Policy**

## **1. Purpose**

To ensure the safety and well-being of pupils, staff, and visitors during severe weather conditions, while maintaining clear communication and minimising disruption to learning.

## **2. Scope**

This policy applies to all staff, pupils, parents, and visitors during incidents of severe weather including but not limited to heavy snow, flooding, extreme cold, heatwaves, or storms.

## **3. Responsibilities**

- **Headteacher (Mrs J Bell-Shaw):** Overall responsibility for decision-making regarding school closure or delayed opening.
- **Senior Leadership Team (Mrs H Langan, Mrs L Broadleday):** Support communication efforts and ensure staff and pupils are informed.
- **Site Manager (Mr B Coleman):** Monitor weather conditions and ensure the school site is safe.
- **Teachers and Support Staff:** Supervise pupils and implement safety measures as directed.
- **Parents/Carers:** Stay informed and follow school communications.

## **4. Procedures**

### **a) Monitoring and Decision-Making**

- The Headteacher and SLT will monitor weather forecasts from trusted sources (e.g., Met Office).
- Decisions about school closure, or delayed opening will be made after, where appropriate, the site has been inspected by the Site Supervisor, and/or Headteacher. The decision will be communicated as soon as possible following inspection. Please assume the school will be open, unless otherwise communicated.
- Consideration will be given to pupil safety, staff availability, and site conditions.

### **b) Communication**

- Inform parents and staff via text message, and school website.
- Update local authority, Chair of Governors, and transport providers as necessary.

### **c) During Severe Weather**

- Ensure pupils remain safe and supervised in school.
- Limit access to outdoors in line with risk assessments.
- Implement adaptive teaching strategies if normal routines are disrupted.

### **d) School Closure or Early Dismissal**

- Parents will be notified promptly.
- Pupils will be supervised until collected.

- Remote learning plans will be activated if closure extends beyond one day.

#### **e) If School Remains Open - Snow/Icy Conditions**

- Dress your child appropriately for the weather e.g. snow boots, wellingtons, warm clothes.
- Try to walk part of the journey to avoid Unity Way during icy conditions.
- Allow extra time for journeys.
- Ensure your child attends school, even if they are late.

#### **5. Remote Learning**

- In case of prolonged closure, remote learning will be provided, via online platforms e.g. LBQ, Mathletics, Spelling Frame, Letter Join, Google Classroom.

#### **6. Review**

- This policy will be reviewed annually or following any severe weather incident.

Policy Written: November 2025

Policy to be reviewed: November 2026