

Meopham School

A Member of Swale Academies Trust

Trust Principal: Mr J Whitcombe MA
Headteacher: Mrs S Dickinson BA (Hons) NPQH



Wrotham Road Meopham Kent DA13 0AH
Tel: 01474 814646
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Our ref: SDI/JC

13th October 2020

Dear Parent/Carer

Please keep this letter handy for reference

1. Emergency Arrangements for school closures

Schools will stay open if at all possible when there is severe weather such as deep/drifted snow, very high winds, widespread flooding. Parents and carers have the responsibility of getting students to and from school safely and need to decide if the journey is safe when severe weather affects transport and/or walking conditions. Parents/carers should inform schools if their child is absent due to severe conditions making the journey unsafe. If your child has a disability and/or learning difficulty your decision to take the journey must take this into consideration. **Please consider carefully and only keep children at home if conditions are unsafe.**

2. Severe Weather Closures

Meopham School will only close if the safety of staff or students is at risk **or** if heating and sanitation fail. We will place messages on our website and on www.kentclosures.co.uk. Within minutes of our message being placed on www.kentclosures.co.uk the local radio stations will use this information to broadcast on the radio and on their websites. Radio Kent 96.7 FM, 97.6 FM, 104.2 FM; RDS: BBC_Kent; DAB: 11C; Freeview: 719 and KMFM West Kent - 96.2 FM / 101.6 FM. If conditions worsen in the school day and parents/carers feel it is absolutely necessary to collect children, the school should be contacted prior to collection. **If your child contacts you directly, please check with the school website for up to date information on possible school closures.**

Opening late and/or closing early is a possibility in poor weather conditions and schools will either inform parents/carers the night before or via the local radio and **school website**.

3. School meal service

On occasions, school meal services may be affected by weather conditions so it is a good idea for pupils to bring in extra food. Please ensure your son/daughter is appropriately clothed for cold, wet, and windy weather and that shoes/boots have good grip for icy conditions.

4. Staying Safe

Please make sure that your children know what to do and where to go if ever the school has to close early e.g. go home, to a relative or friend. We will not allow children to leave school, if we do not know how they will get home. We will keep them here until they can be fetched. Obviously the longer this takes, the more staff may be at risk of not getting home themselves. Your co-operation and understanding in these rare, but difficult, circumstances are appreciated.

5 Re-opening

We will use the same forms of contact as in No.2 above to inform parents/carers that school will re-open.

6. Websites are very useful sources of information during the winter. Here is a list of the most helpful.

Meopham School	https://meophamschool.org.uk/
KMFM	www.kmfm.co.uk
Radio Kent	www.bbc.co.uk/kent
Kent County Council	www.kentclosures.co.uk

We would encourage you to sign up for email alerts from www.kentclosures.co.uk

Yours faithfully



Mrs S. Dickinson
Headteacher