

Meopham School

A Member of Swale Academies Trust

Headteacher: Mr E Roberts BA Hons. PGCE NPQH



Wrotham Road Meopham Kent DA13 0AH

Tel: 01474 814646

Website: www.meophamschool.org.uk

January 2025

Please keep this letter for future reference

Dear Parents and Carers

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 include 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, the school will communicate further advice to parents/carers. Please do not arrive at school to collect children during the school day prior to communication from the school as this could cause further disruption.

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 have good grip for icy conditions.

4. Staying Safe

Please make sure that your children know what to do and where to go if 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 at school until they can be collected. Obviously the longer this takes, the more staff may be at risk of not getting home themselves. Your cooperation and understanding in these rare, but difficult, circumstances are appreciated.

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5. Re-opening

We will use the same forms of contact as in Number 2 above to inform parents/carers that school will reopen.

6. Websites are very useful sources of information during the winter.

Here is a list of the most helpful:

Meopham School
KMFM
Radio Kent
Kent County Council

<https://meophamschool.org.uk/>
www.kmfm.co.uk
www.bbc.co.uk/kent
www.kentclosures.co.uk

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

7. School Work

Work will be made available on Google classroom or Oak National Academy for students. Please look out for communication from the school around 9am in the event of a closure regarding school work.

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'E Roberts', written over a horizontal line.

Mr E Roberts
Headteacher