

# SHERWOOD JUNIOR SCHOOL

## SEVERE WEATHER POLICY

September 2023

This policy outlines procedures the school will follow in the event of severe weather conditions e.g snow, fog, floods, as advised in the guidelines from Nottinghamshire County Council.

### **Responsibilities:**

During adverse weather conditions, the responsibility for making any arrangements for the property (including clearance of ice and snow, gritting, closure) rests with Mrs Simpson, Head Teacher. It is her responsibility to make the decision to determine how sources are best used, particularly the priority areas for snow and ice clearance and the application of salt/grit. These decisions will be made in conjunction with advice from Mr Elder, Site Manager.

### **Factors to consider when making arrangements in severe weather:**

There are several factors to take in to account when making arrangements in severe weather conditions:

- The safety of adults travelling to school
- The safety of children travelling to school
- The scale of any clearance operations deemed necessary to make the school safe
- The predicted weather forecast

Sherwood will not fully treat or clear entire playgrounds, paths or car parks, however we will clear pedestrian routes and if necessary we will clear access for disabled staff and visitors. All staff and children are expected to wear appropriate footwear and clothing in severe weather conditions.

Mr Elder (Site Manager) will be responsible for ordering, storing and handling grit/salt and for its application on the school premises. We accept that due to the time this takes it might not be possible for all other non-essential site jobs to be completed.

### **Notifying parents / carers in the event of school closure:**

Closure of our school will only be done as a last resort, taking in to account the factors above. The decision to close the school due to severe weather rests with Mrs Simpson (Head Teacher). The decision will be taken as early as possible, or in advance in the case of severe weather overnight, in order for parents for make any necessary child care arrangements. We will notify parents at the earliest possibility by:

- Text message (parents are responsible for ensuring contact details are kept up to date)
- Post on the front page of our school website
- Alerts on our school Facebook page
- Alerts on Capital Radio