

Adverse weather

Policy statement

At Gilderdale Nursery we have an adverse weather policy in place to ensure our nursery is prepared for all weather conditions that might affect the running of the nursery such as floods, snow, heat waves and high winds.

If any of these incidents impact on the ability of the nursery to open or operate, we will contact parents via phone, email, Facebook or tapestry.

Procedures

- We will not take children outdoors where we judge that weather conditions make it unsafe to do so.

Flood

- In the case of a flood we will follow our critical incident procedure to enable all children and staff to be safe and continuity of care to be planned for.
- In the case of a flood effecting the safety of the building, parents will be informed and children must be collected.
- Parents and carers will be informed with developments if the nursery requires work.

Snow or other severe weather

- If high snowfall, or another severe weather condition such as ice, is threatened during a nursery day then the manager will take the decision as to whether to close the nursery.
- This decision will consider the safety of the children, their parents and the staff team. In the event of a planned closure during the nursery day, we will contact all parents to arrange for collection of their child.
- In the event of staff shortages due to snow or other severe weather we will contact all available off duty staff and/or agency staff and group the children differently until they are able to arrive.
- If we are unable to maintain statutory ratio requirements after all avenues are explored, we will contact Ofsted to inform them of this issue, recording all details in our incident file. If we feel the safety, health or welfare of the children is compromised then we will take the decision to close the nursery.
- The manager and senior staff will monitor the weather forecast and keep parents and carers updated as soon as possible in the event of a full closure or early closure.

High winds

- In the event of high winds, the staff will review the safety of the outdoor area.
- If severe high winds occur, it may reduce the amount of outdoor time the children get that day.
- Forest school sessions will not go ahead in high winds
- Forest school holiday clubs will not go ahead in severe high winds.

Heat wave

Please refer to our sun care policy.

This policy was adopted by _____
On _____
Date to be reviewed _____
Signed on behalf of provider _____
Name of signatory _____
Role of signatory _____