



Date: 20 November 2018

Ref: ALA/jm

Dear Parents/Carers

The winter season is upon us and so we would like to remind you of the procedures that will be followed in the event of adverse weather conditions. It is highly unlikely that we would close the school but as always, our top priority is the safety of our students. Below I have outlined the processes that are followed in the event of severe weather conditions.

### HOW WE MAKE OUR DECISION

Please understand that we make the decision to close the school in bad weather based on the careful consideration of a number of factors, some of which include the local road conditions and public transport; how long the period of bad weather is likely to continue and the condition of the school grounds and buildings etc.

### HOW WILL YOU BE NOTIFIED

Parents/Carers will be notified of a school closure through various channels. These include:

- Via Schoolcomms (if you have not already registered for this service and downloaded the app, please do so now by visiting [www.schoolgateway.com/apple](http://www.schoolgateway.com/apple) (apple phones) or [www.schoolgateway.com/android](http://www.schoolgateway.com/android) (android phones).
- Via KCC School Closures at [www.kentclosures.co.uk](http://www.kentclosures.co.uk)
- Via the school website at [www.thenorthschool.org.uk](http://www.thenorthschool.org.uk)
- Local radio, i.e., Radio Kent and KMFM

### WILL WE CLOSE THE SCHOOL IF CONDITIONS WORSEN

It is highly unlikely that we will close the school after the start of the school day. However, if conditions get worse during the day, we may need to have an early dismissal. If this is the case we will attempt to contact and give adequate notice to all parents/carers first. It is important during any period of adverse weather that parents/carers monitor the school website and schoolcomms for notifications and updates.

Although the staff and I do our absolute best in this process, we know that often no perfect decision exists.

We hope that this explanation helps everyone understand the process that we use during periods of severe weather to make the best possible decision for all the students in our care.

Yours faithfully

**MRS A LAWRENCE**  
Head of School