**17 - Adverse Weather Policy**

The safety of our children, staff and the families who use our Pre-School is of the utmost importance to us. We will therefore endeavour to remain open where possible during bad weather conditions, but this will heavily depend upon a number of circumstances.

1) If we are predicted bad weather/ snow we MAY make the decision to close the Pre-School the following day. In this situation, an email will be sent round to all parents registered on our data-base (please note this email address is the same one where invoices are sent) to notify everyone of the closure of the nursery and we will text all parents using the mobile phone number given to us as the 1st emergency contact for each child. A notice will also be placed on our private Facebook page.

2) The decision to close will also however depend upon; how many staff members are able to safely travel to work, the building inside, and outside is accessible and safe, and the temperature is suitable for the children when inside.

We cannot and will not open unless the minimum correct adult:child ratio can be met. (as per the Statutory Framework set out by Ofsted) Therefore, if only a certain number of staff members are able travel to work on this day, we will have to close the Pre-School.

 3) If the Pre-School is open as normal and we have bad weather during the day, the Pre-School Supervisor and Chairperson will have the final judgement on whether the Pre-School remains open for the day and for how long this might be. In the Chair Person’s absence, the Pre-School Supervisor will have the final judgement. We will seek advice and follow in due course with the Local Schools and closures in the area. The safety of everyone accessing the Pre-School is the most important thing, and if we feel parents need to start collecting their children in order to get home safely, phone calls will be made to all parents to inform them of our decision.

4) In the case of a full day closure, for any paying children, if the decision is of the preschool to close, then we will offer you an alternative session where possible, if you reject this, or you as the parent decide not to send your child then the fees are still payable to the preschool.

Snow can be very exciting for the children and we like to be able to make these times fun for the children and incorporate learning opportunities.

Most of the time travel and the operation of the nursery can remain normal, but we ask that all parents understand the need for safety when faced with bad weather.