



Joseph Swan Academy

Adverse Weather Policy

2018 - 2019

To be reviewed September 2019

Adverse Weather Policy

In the event of disruption caused by heavy snow the prime concern of the Academy is always the safety of the students and staff.

The decision to close the Academy will take account of the safety of all our students and staff, some of whom travel a great distance to the Academy each day. We will always endeavour to open the Academy in the event of bad weather, as long as it is safe to do so. If a teacher is unable to get to the Academy we may need to reallocate that class, or operate a revised timetable.

If the Academy is open in snow or bad weather, students are expected to attend as normal, as long as it is safe for them to travel.

In the event of bad weather, parents/carers should check whether the Academy is open before travelling to the site. The Head Teacher and Site Manager will inspect the site and we will aim to let parents/carers know of any decision to close the Academy between 6.30am – 7am.

There are a number of ways to confirm whether the Academy is open or closed.

- Academy texting service and email – we will make a decision as early as possible, and will intend to reopen as soon as we can. Please ensure all of your contact details are up to date to enable us to communicate with you in this way
- Check the Academy website www.josephswan.org.uk
- Listen for lists of school closures on local radio
<http://www.metroradio.co.uk/page/school-closures/>
- Check the list of school closures on the Gateshead Council Website
<http://www.gateshead.gov.uk/EducationandLearning/Schools/SchoolClosures.aspx>

If the Academy does open, but extreme weather develops during the day, we will aim to remain open until the end of the normal Academy day at 2.50pm. However this is not always possible when roads are becoming treacherous. In which case parents will be contacted via text and email.

Staff will always make every reasonable effort to undertake the journey to the Academy. While staff would be expected to arrive into the Academy in time for the normal daily Academy routines to occur, it is appreciated that those with a longer journey may take more time than normal to travel into the Academy.

In all aspects of extreme/adverse weather safety of students, staff and visitors to our Academy is paramount.