

# **BOWES HUTCHINSON'S C OF E VOLUNTARY AIDED SCHOOL**



## **POLICY DOCUMENT**

### **SCHOOL CLOSURE ARRANGEMENTS**

**Date Revised: September 2020**

**Date for Review: September 2021**

**Signed: \_\_\_\_\_**

## **BOWES HUTCHINSON'S C OF E AIDED SCHOOL SCHOOL CLOSURE ARRANGEMENTS**

Bowes Hutchinson's C.E. Aided School is set in a fairly isolated rural location. The village and surrounding area of Bowes and Stainmore is renowned for experiencing extreme weather conditions during winter. It is often the first place to be cut off when snowfall occurs. There is an added complication of snowgates on Bowes Moor being locked to prevent traffic crossing Bowes Moor, as we have children who attend school from within the boundaries of the snowgates.

In the event of the school having to be closed due to adverse weather conditions either before, during or after the school day, the following procedures apply.

In the case of the Headteacher or members of staff not being able to reach the school due to adverse weather conditions, the school caretaker should open the school and telephone the Headteacher as early as possible.

If any child arrives at school, the caretaker should inform the Headteacher who will contact parents or alternative contact numbers, to explain the circumstances. In the event of one or two children being left in school arrangements will be made with either relatives or family friends in the village after consultation with the parents.

In the event of the school having to be closed during the school day, the children's parents will be contacted. It is the responsibility of the parents to cancel taxi services. This will be done as soon as there is any possibility of the A66 being closed and access to the village becomes difficult.

Staff will remain in school with those children who do not have access to transport until a suitable solution/alternative can be found.

Information regarding school closures will be put on the school website and the school facebook page as soon as possible. The County Extranet School Closures Site will also be updated.

If the decision is made to close the school due to health and safety/inadequate staffing levels the Headteacher will ring staff and they in turn will contact specified adults (see appendix 1). Staff are reminded to advise parents to cancel taxi services.