

THE BURTON BOROUGH SCHOOL

A Specialist Arts College



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Our Ref: DMH/JMcP

5th January 2010

Dear Parents/Carers/Students

BAD WEATHER

A Happy New Year and Decade to everyone. I very much hope that you had a fabulous Christmas, and that all the New Year resolutions are still intact!

Following the snow of last year, we seem to be set for another cold winter this year. As a result I thought it would be helpful if I explained our procedures in the event of severe weather locally.

We will do everything reasonably practicable to keep the school open each and every day this winter. However, in extremely rare circumstances, closing the school can become essential due to safety issues on site, road conditions for buses/staff travelling to school or even failure of our heating system. Once again, I would like to assure you that we will do everything possible to prevent these issues forcing us to close.

If we do have to close, an announcement will be made on BBC Radio Shropshire (96 FM) as soon as practicable. We will also inform Beacon Radio (103.1 FM). **Whilst I understand the temptation to telephone school to see if we are open, I would urge you not to do so!** This simply prevents us from making essential calls to bus companies etc., and there will be no staff available to answer the telephone until 9.30 a.m at the earliest.

We will also make every effort to post a notice on our website, and email all parents on our contact list. I am, however, sure that you will understand that if circumstances have already forced a decision to close then the number of staff within the school is likely to be extremely limited.

If weather conditions deteriorate very badly during a school day then the bus companies may decide they need to collect children early and we may decide it is wise to close the school before 3.30 p.m. Again we would inform local radio stations should this occur. Under these circumstances we cannot let children leave the premises unless they can assure us they have somewhere safe to go so please agree in advance what your child should do if this situation arises.

I would like to thank you, in advance, for your support in what would inevitably be very challenging circumstances.

Yours sincerely

D M Hill
Headteacher

