

**Adverse Weather Policy**

It is the policy of the school to make every effort to remain open whenever possible. The decision to close the school either before or during the school day will be made by the Director, Education, Communities and Economy. The school will only be closed if one or more of the following conditions apply:

1. Insufficient staff are able to come in to keep the school running safely.
2. Conditions on site are dangerous
3. Conditions are considered to be or are anticipated to later become too hazardous for travel.

If after taking local advice it is decided to close the school, information will be available from Midlothian Council website at [www.midlothian.gov.uk](http://www.midlothian.gov.uk) and local media, including the BBC, Forth Radio, Real Radio or Black Diamond FM.

At a school level we try to keep you up to date through:

* Text
* School Twitter account @NewtongrangePS

Where the school is officially closed, all absence is registered as authorised absence.

**The Policy at Newtongrange Primary School for adverse weather conditions is that:**

**At the start of the school day**

Wherever possible the school will remain open, however due to road conditions some staff may be late arriving and the start of the school day could be affected. Registers are not closed on snow days until 10.30am.  Please travel to school safely. We ask parents to work in partnership with us as routines will obviously change on these days. Parents are encouraged to check Midlothian Council website or listen to the local radio for details of any closure. Staff will endeavour to answer the telephone but it might not be possible if limited staff have arrived at school before the school day starts.

**During the school day**

In the event of the school having to close during the day due to unforeseen worsening weather or similar unforeseen circumstances, parents will be contacted by text messaging and asked to collect their child/ren. Such an early release will only be contemplated in very extreme circumstances. Should a parent not be able to be contacted or a child cannot be picked up by parent/carer, additional contacts provided by parents for collection purposes throughout the year will be used as the next means of communication.

**It is important the school has your most current emergency contact details**.

**Gritting**

The janitor will do their best to salt main pathways to the school. We cannot salt the whole playground. We would therefore recommend that staff, parents and pupils treat all path and playground areas as potential slip hazards and take appropriate precautions in cold weather.

**Learning at home**

If children are prevented from coming to school due adverse weather conditions, there is a range of home learning experiences shared on our school website that learners can carry out.