

Witton Church Walk CE Aided Nursery & Primary School  
Church Walk, off Chester Way,  
Northwich,  
Cheshire,  
CW9 5QQ

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*'Where Every Door is Opened  
and Every Gift Unlocked'*

Head teacher: Mrs K Magiera  
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2<sup>nd</sup> November 2021

### **OUR COLLECTIVE RESPONSIBILITIES IN THE ICE AND SNOW**

Dear Families,

It is coming towards the time of year when the temperature drops and we may get some ice and snow. As you know we make every effort to keep the school open but sometimes I have to make the decision to close the school for the safety of your children. This decision is not taken lightly and has to be taken with the information I have at that time. Last school year we were very lucky with the winter weather. Please keep these letters at hand. Due to the cold weather please ensure your child has a:-

- Warm coat that fastens
- Hat
- Scarf
- Gloves
- Suitable footwear if required – school shoes are to be worn in school at all times, your child may change from Ugg boots or wellingtons when they get in to school.

**All items must be named.** A spare set of socks and gloves in their reading folder is also a good idea! Remember Ugg boots and wellies may be worn to school but children must change into school shoes as they enter school. Black leather boots can be worn throughout the school day.

It is imperative at this time that we all work together and are responsible for our own safety in the ice and snow and for the safety of your children when they are in your care walking in to school. My Site Manager and I take lots of decisions during the cold weather to ensure that we have safe pathways in to school but you also have a responsibility to be careful and assess your own risks when walking on ice and snow.

### **COVID**

There will be a higher chance this year of our school closing if severe snow or ice. I have only ever closed the school a couple of times during the ten years I have been head teacher so please be reassured that we will make every effort to keep school



open. However due to the current safety guidance for COVID extra limitations are put on entrances in to school, so I am just informing you that there may be a higher chance of school closing as we will not be able to get the children in to school and to the classrooms safely through one entrance at one time. My site manager and I will endeavour to open school if we are able to do so safely.

The governors and I complete a risk assessment each year with reference to our responsibilities during ice and snow to minimise risks to enable the school to open and run as normal a school day as is possible. My Site Manager will grit the pathways from each gate numbered 1-5 to the entrance doors in to school.

**PLEASE ENSURE THE SCHOOL HAS AN UP TO DATE MOBILE NUMBER SO YOU RECEIVE THIS VITAL INFORMATION.**

If there is ice or snow forecast please can I ask that you keep an eye on our school website, [www.wittonchurchwalk.co.uk](http://www.wittonchurchwalk.co.uk), the school twitter account, the school app our Facebook page and Instagram as Mrs Foulkes will keep them updated with reference to the closing of the school. If the decision is made to close the school then a text will be sent to all families, if this service is down we will try our upmost to telephone all our families. Although with us having 275 families this will take a significant amount of time so I would ask you to bear with us if the text service is down.

Kind regards

Mrs K Magiera  
Head teacher

Mrs S Merison  
Chair of Governors

