

GRITTING PLAN

The approved code of practice which supports the Workplace (Health, Safety and Welfare) Regulations states that “arrangements should be made to minimise risks from snow and ice”. This may involve gritting, snow clearing and closure of some routes. All reasonable efforts will be made to ensure that the school remains open as normal. A risk assessment is in place which covers the hazards associated with snow and ice on our premises.

The Headteacher and Deputy Headteacher monitor local weather forecasts in order to react to situations as quickly as possible and implement any special measures. These include staff starting work earlier to commence the gritting plan. The HT/DHT will communicate with the Site Technician and arrange action as appropriate.

- A path 1 metre wide from the site entrance to all identified building entrances is cleared. Slopes and steps are also regarded as a priority. (See Plan).
- Cleared paths are treated with salt/grit to maintain a clear pathway especially where temperatures remain below freezing.
- If slopes and steps remain in a dangerous condition, access to the affected area will be prevented.
- The car park and driveway is not treated as priority but pathways leading from car parks to the building will be dealt with as soon as possible
- The school does not have responsibility for gritting the access road to the school.

Where the HT/DHT or Site Technician have concerns over the safety of certain external pathways, circulation routes, playgrounds etc., affected areas will be taken out of use. If there is a requirement to prevent access to paths, slopes, steps or other areas then these will be marked clearly using signs/cones/tape, as appropriate, to ensure everyone is made aware.

Before school starts at 8.55am and after it finishes at 3.15pm, parents and carers are responsible for ensuring the wellbeing of their children.

Where playgrounds remain excessively slippery due to compacted snow and ice, it may be necessary for pupils to be accommodated indoors at break times.

All staff are aware of the risk assessment and the gritting plan.

Parents are advised during the autumn term of the plans and procedures put in place for dealing with snow and ice around school premises and the procedure posted on the schools website.

Should a decision be taken to close the school due to bad weather, the Headteacher will inform parents via text message and via local radio stations (Radio Derby and Touch FM).