

# Adverse Weather Policy

This policy is in place to ensure the Centre is prepared for all adverse weather such as floods, snow and heatwaves. If any of these impact on the ability for the Centre to operate we will contact parents via email / phone and Social Media.

## **Flood**

In the case of a flood we will follow our critical incident procedure to enable all children and staff to be safe and continuity of care to be planned for.

## **Snow**

If high snow fall is threatened during a usual business day then in consultation with the board a decision may be taken to partially close or fully close the centre. This decision will take into account the safety of the children, their parents and the staff team. In the event of a planned closure during a business day parents will be contacted to arrange for collection of their child.

In the event of staff shortage due to snow during opening hours we will contact all available off duty staff and/or agency staff. We will group the children until the situation is assessed. If we are unable to maintain statutory ratio requirements after all avenues are explored, we will contact Ofsted Early Years to inform them of this issue, recording all details in our incident file.

If we feel the safety, health or welfare of the children is compromised then we will take the decision to partially close or fully close the Centre. If the Centre can accommodate any children that may have already arrived before such decisions have been made, children may be offered childcare on a first come, first served basis. We will aim to communicate with parents as early as possible to ensure that parents can make alternative childcare arrangements if necessary.

## **Heat Wave - supported by Sun Policy**

In extremely hot weather we will utilise the natural ventilation systems of the Centre, opening all vents, windows and doors whilst ensuring the safety and security of the building is not compromised. Oscillating fans will be provided to each room, and these will help to move and cool air.

Staff will encourage children to access sheltered and shaded areas outside, these include the balcony and decked areas - depending on the time of day they are used. Temperatures will be monitored to ensure safe



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access to the outdoors in line with our sun protection policy. Children under the age of six months will be kept out of direct sunlight. All children will be actively encouraged to drink water and fluids will be monitored to ensure they remain hydrated. Water is made available in all Centre areas both indoor and out. If we feel the safety, health or welfare of the children is compromised in the extreme heat, then we will decide to partially close or fully close the Centre.

Reviewed by	Angela Hynes
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