



Tyfu gyda'n gilydd, dysgu am byth
Growing together, learning forever

11th January 2024

RE: PROCEDURES FOR BAD WEATHER

Dear Parents/Carers

Happy New Year to one and all! – Christmas already seems such a long time ago, but can I just take this quick opportunity to offer a massive thanks to everyone for their support with coming to concerts, PFA Christmas Fayre, junior 'sing & sell' events – it was an extremely busy few weeks for everyone, but loads of fun all round.

Now we're back and the weather has become notably colder, I want to take this chance to remind everyone of our procedures should we encounter heavy snow and ice this winter.

Firstly, we will make *every possible effort* to open to all classes. Decisions are made on a school-by-school basis, depending upon factors such as ground conditions on site and locally, plus staff availability. We have very rarely had to close over the years but sometimes it could be necessary to close to certain classes depending upon staff's ability to get in.

When these situations happen, it can take a little while to get all the information needed, including consultation with our site manager, cook and chair of governors. I would always aim to confirm and communicate a decision to close by 7:30am at the latest.

We would post the closure notice on the front page of the school website (www.maesyrrhaul.com) and on the BCBC School Closures page ([School closures - Bridgend CBC](#)). Then we would message all parents via School Gateway as quickly as possible. If in doubt, please refer to either of these websites first as inevitably these situations result in multiple phone calls to the office when potentially, nobody will be there to answer, especially before 8:15am.

If the ground conditions are bad but improving, we may choose to delay the school start time (preferable to closing) or at least delay the register so that later arrivals do not get a late mark. In these situations, it is of course, up to each individual family to decide if they can safely travel to school and decisions whether to authorise such absences on that day will vary dependent on circumstances. Generally, in particularly bad weather, we would record such absences as 'special circumstances', provided we have been informed. I hope this helps to clarify the arrangements for everyone.

Kind Regards

Kevin Stroud,
Headteacher