

JOHN WHITGIFT ACADEMY

EMERGENCY CLOSURE PLAN – SNOWFALL

Teaching and Learning is our core business but health and safety has to be our number one priority, at all times.

In the event of extreme weather conditions, please note the following points:

A. ACADEMY OPEN

1. The academy will OPEN providing all reasonable measures can be put in place to do so safely. (This decision will be made in consultation with various agencies e.g. the school bus companies.
2. If we are open, we would like students to attend but weather and road conditions can vary so parents/carers must make the final decision on whether or not it is safe for their child to travel.
3. Students who are late should report to reception and providing every reasonable attempt has been made to attend, no child will be punished for being late.
4. On arrival, students should report immediately to their mentor room. The building will be open for students to wait inside out of the very cold weather.

B. ACADEMY CLOSED

5. A notice will be posted on the academy website by 7.15 am or as soon as possible thereafter.
6. Lincs FM (102.2) and Radio Humberside (95.9) will broadcast details of all closures so please tune in. (Please note:- Radio Stations are inundated with calls at peak times and will only accept school closure notices. They will not broadcast the list of schools that are OPEN).

For up to date information please log onto the following radio station websites.

<http://www.lincsfm.co.uk/news/school-closures/>

http://news.bbc.co.uk/local/humberside/hi/people_and_places/newsid_9240000/9240636.stm

7. Text messages will be sent to all parents/carers who gave us an up to date mobile phone number. Please note – it can take some time for a message to be delivered to 800+ phones so it is always quicker to check the website or tune into the radio.

8. Please try to avoid telephoning the academy as this simply blocks the lines for all other incoming and outgoing calls.

Check the website/radio stations throughout the day/period for the latest information.

C. EARLY CLOSURE

If the academy has to close early, it is unlikely that students will be sent home before lunch. Students who walk or cycle will be allowed to leave providing they can gain access to their home. Students who travel by bus or car or who cannot gain access to home will remain on site and be supervised until they can journey home safely.

FINALLY

Please be alert to the weather.

Should the academy need to close in the event of any other emergency (e.g. fire or flood) the above procedures will act as a guide and be followed where relevant. Although decisions will need to be taken that are specific to the circumstances, the health, safety and welfare of the students will always be the priority.