

GOLDINGTON GREEN ACADEMY



Adverse Weather Conditions Policy

Safeguarding

Goldington Green Academy recognises it has a statutory duty under Section 175 of the Education Act 2002 to ensure arrangements are in place for safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children.

We recognise that children who are abused or witness violence may find it difficult to develop a sense of self-worth and that school may be the only stable, secure and predictable element in the lives of children at risk. Our school will endeavour to support these pupils by providing an ethos which promotes a positive, supportive and secure environment, providing a sense of being valued.

All staff, governors and volunteers must be made aware of, and adhere to the safeguarding policy and procedures within the school.

At Goldington Green we recognise our legal and ethical duty to keep pupils safe from radicalisation and extremism. As such we incorporate the principles of the PREVENT agenda into all practice including the curriculum. Additionally, we ensure that all speakers are carefully vetted by senior staff and that all material available in school, both electronic and otherwise, is suitable. We also ensure that sufficient training is in place so that all staff understand what radicalisation means and why people may be vulnerable to being drawn into terrorism as a consequence of it. Staff know what measures are available to prevent people from becoming drawn into terrorism and how to challenge the extremist ideology that can be associated with it. Any concerns are dealt with in line with our safeguarding policy working in conjunction with Bedfordshire Police and other agencies as appropriate.

Equal Opportunities

The Equality Act 2010 makes it unlawful for staff to discriminate directly or indirectly, or to harass staff or pupils due to any of the nine protected characteristics.

Goldington Green Academy aims to create a culture that respects and values each other's differences, that promotes dignity, equality and diversity, and that encourages individuals to develop and maximise their true potential.

Everyone within the school community has a responsibility to ensure that this statement is adhered to. Senior Leaders in particular, should lead by example, identify any inappropriate behaviour when it happens and take prompt action to deal with inappropriate behaviour.

We aim to remove any barriers, bias or discrimination that prevents individuals or groups from realising their potential and contributing fully to our school's performance. In removing these barriers, we aim to develop a school culture that positively values diversity.

We are committed wherever practicable, to achieving and maintaining a workforce that broadly reflects the local community in which we operate.

Every possible step will be taken to ensure that individuals are treated fairly in all aspects of their employment, engagement or whilst volunteering at our school

If at all possible the school will remain open and staff will be here as normal.

During the winter months there are occasions when we can experience adverse weather conditions. It is always very difficult when we have snow and ice to determine how this will affect travel etc. and we would ask that you follow the policy below if we experience any bad weather over the next few weeks.

We would ask that you listen to the local radio stations and check our school App and the Bedford Borough websites regularly, until you are ready to leave for school. We will also send a text message when a decision has been made to close the school.

The Policy at Goldington Green Academy for adverse weather conditions is that:

At the start of the school day

- The Chair of Governors, Headteacher and School Business Manager will decide based on local conditions as to whether it is safe to open the school.
- A text message will be sent to parents by ASAP advising them as to whether or not the school is open.
- Listening to the local radio and or check the Borough website for details of any closure is the preferred method of communication.

Parents are asked to note that it may not be possible for staff to answer the telephone and we would ask that you do not call before 8.30am.

During the school day

- Once a decision has been made to open the school it will **not** close during the day.
- If the weather becomes severe during the day then parents may contact the school if they feel that they would like to collect their child early for safety reasons (i.e. travelling/walking long distances or collecting other children from local schools).
- Parents will then be advised that children can be collected from 1.30pm onwards (i.e. after lunch).
- The school will remain open until 3.00pm, however, if parents are delayed due to adverse weather conditions then they should contact the school if possible to give an anticipated arrival time.
- Children will be supervised until a parent/carer is able to collect them.
- Parents must consider their own safety, traffic congestion and safety of others in these circumstances and understand that children at Goldington Green Academy will be cared for until it is possible for them to be collected.
- We do hope this clarifies the policy for inclement weather at Goldington Green Academy and we would ask that you keep this letter for future reference throughout the winter months.

January 2023