

Wildlings



Adverse Weather Policy

Policy statement

This policy outlines emergency action plans to take in the case of adverse weather conditions for both hall based and Forest School sessions. Adverse weather can pose many dangers during and traveling to and from forest school sites. Weather can be unpredictable, and each situation may be different through changing seasons and site locations.

Practitioners will use their best judgment to risk assess the best course of actions in each individual circumstance.

Strong wind/lightning storms

High winds impose the risk of falling trees and branches. If westerly gusts over 34mph or northerly gusts over 30mph are forecast the session will be relocated to the hall. Parents/carers will be informed via Family, our communication platform, with as much notice as possible. Sessions will still reflect our forest school approach and practice.

Should strong winds or lightning occur unexpectedly during session, the practitioners will risk assess to decide if evacuation is needed. Parents will be called and must arrange immediate collection of their child from the site evacuation point. These are shining cliff woods car park and The Old Rag Mill. Children will sit in staff cars until parents have arrived.

Snow

In event of heavy snowfall, the practitioners will risk assess and may decide to cancel the session. Staff may deem it too unsafe for families to travel to and from our hall or our forest school sites. We will endeavour to give as much notice as possible via Family, our communication platform.

If there is heavy snowfall during session staff will risk assess and evacuate children to the entrance of the woods track or if at the meadow The Old Rag Mill. Parents will be called and must arrange immediate collection of their child from the site evacuation point. Kit may be left until it is safe to return and collect.

Extreme cold

In some circumstance's practitioners will use their best judgment to decide weather it is in the children's best interest and emotional wellbeing to continue a session outside. If an individual child is too cold staff will call parents to arrange collection immediately. If it is in the best interest of the whole group, staff will return to the hall for the remainder of the day. Staff cars may be used to transport children back to the hall. On days off extreme cold staff may begin the session at the hall and travel to a site by foot and return to the hall when they deem it appropriate.

Icy roads

Due to the rural location of both of our forest school sites B roads may be dangerous to travel on during winter months. Staff will risk assess the situation and may feel it is safer to

run the session from the hall or use a site which can be accessed by foot. Weather will be checked the day before but there may be occasions when notice will be given on the morning of the session.

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