



St Michael & St John's RC Primary School
Lowergate, Clitheroe, Lancashire BB7 1AG
Headteacher: Mrs Zoe Mabbott BEd (Hons) NPQH

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St Michael & St John's Severe Weather Policy

Information and advice on unavoidable school closures and travel arrangements in difficult weather circumstances

When it snows or floods...

On rare occasions, the weather can be so severe that getting to and from school becomes hazardous.. Really bad weather is disruptive and can cause anxiety and stress. Understandably, many parents ring the school if there is an increasing risk of flooding or if snow starts falling heavily during the day. It can be frustrating trying to get through when all our outside lines are engaged by other parents calling for the same reason!

We have introduced a texting service to inform parents of closures, which should reduce the need to telephone school.

We will ensure that our website www.ssmj.lancs.sch.uk is updated throughout the day regarding any developments which might affect transport arrangements. To guarantee that you have the latest information, please refresh your browser. Any decision to close the school will also be communicated to parents via our text messaging service so it is vital that your contact details are up to date.

Decisions about closing the school or sending pupils home early are always difficult to make. We check weather reports, and try to assess what is happening elsewhere in the area.

Severe overnight weather

Once we have made the decision (either the previous evening or very early on the same day) not to open the school, we will send a text.

We also contact BBC Radio Lancashire and Rock FM who announce school closures as they get them. BBC Radio Lancashire lists school closures on its website.



BBC Radio Lancashire: 95.5 FM / 855 MW / 1557 MW
Rock FM: 97.4 FM

If the weather deteriorates during the day

- The school will be closed early only in extreme cases.
 - The decision to close the school will be made by the Headteacher and other key staff.
 - Any decision to close the school early will be passed on to staff and pupils as soon as we have made arrangements. Parents will be informed via the school website and by text message where we have a contact number.
 - School will be kept open with staff on hand until the last pupil has left.
 - It is not normally possible for pupils to be given lifts by staff.
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- How parents can help
 - Check the school website and listen to BBC Lancashire or Rock FM for early morning information.
 - Plan ahead with your child what to do in a bad weather emergency.
 - Only call the school if you really have to - calls in prevent calls out!
 - Let us have your up-to-date contact details - including mobile phone number and email address.