



Severe Weather Arrangements

The School is committed to staying open and operational whenever possible but has detailed procedures in place to support a swift and safe response to severe winter weather.

1. Communication

On days when severe weather puts the operation of the school in any doubt, we aim to communicate with parents and with staff via Groupcall (text messages and e-mails) **by 6.30am** to indicate the status of the school. An announcement will also be placed on the school website.

The London Borough of Redbridge posts information about the status of all schools in the Borough on its website at 8.00am.

In the event that a sudden onset of bad weather during a school day necessitates an early closure, parents will be notified by via Groupcall (text message and e-mail) and a notice will be placed on the website.

Parents are advised to check the school website regularly in such circumstances.

2. Public Examinations

With the demise of January modules, a school closure during a public examination session is less likely. In such an event we would do everything possible to run the examination, even if the school were closed to other pupils. Examination candidates are asked to check the school website. Girls are reminded that, in such a context, they can start a public examination up to 30 minutes after its published start time. Transportation difficulties therefore need not be a reason to miss an examination.

3. Transport

Parents are responsible for assessing any risks associated with travel to school in severe weather conditions. You are advised to contact London Transport direct about the operation of

buses and trains in periods of severe weather. If such conditions arise during the course of a day, the School will check on the status of buses for the end of the day.

4. Clothing

Students do not always make sensible decisions about footwear and outer clothing. Parents are reminded that footwear, in particular, is a safety concern in icy conditions. Students are advised to wear coats and boots to school and to bring dry indoor footwear to change into on arrival.

5. Start of the Day

Students arriving between 7.40 and 8.20am are to wait in the Dining Room where breakfast will be available, if wanted. In the event of weather so poor that the arrival of some teachers is delayed, students will (at 8.20am) be shown to the school hall where alternative arrangements will be put in place.

6. Break and Lunch Time

In severe winter weather students will be required to remain indoors at break and lunchtime until the full safety of the site can be determined.

7. School Closure

In the event of a school closure lasting more than one day, work will be set on *Frontier* for each year group and all students will be expected to complete it before their return to school.