St Edward's Catholic Primary School

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Headteacher: **Mr S Atkinson**

10th November 2026

Dear Parent/Carer

Severe Snow/Ice Plan for Parents/Carers and Families

Every winter brings the possibility of snow and ice. Extreme bad weather can cause widespread and prolonged disruption. Schools are often affected and it can be difficult to maintain an education service.

As a fundamental principle every effort must be made to keep schools open, even if only limited number of pupils can attend. However, schools may close due to unavoidable circumstances. Those circumstances being that it is no longer safe for staff or pupils to be onsite.

We recognise that it is important our school remains open so parents are able to work and pupils can continue to learn. St Edward's School will make every effort to prepare for severe snow/ice this winter by ensuring there are clear paths within school to access classrooms.

How will we let you know if the school is closed?

If we do experience severe snow/ice resulting in hazardous conditions, we may have to take the decision to close the school. Once this decision has been made, we will notify parents/carers via the Kent Closure website. To determine whether St Edward's School is open or closed please visit www.kentclosures.co.uk. Search for the school in the search box. The Kent Closures website can also be used to find out if other services in Kent are open or closed, such as nurseries, children's centres and libraries. We also recommend parents sign up for SMS/Email alerts on the Kent Closures website. This service will send an SMS or email alert to let parents know if St Edward's

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School is closed. Parents can also listen to KMFM, BBC Radio Kent or Heart FM to hear if the school has closed.

The school will also send out text messages/e-mails via The Arbor App. Please make sure you update your contact details on the Arbor App.

What can you do to help?

- Please visit www.kent.gov.uk/winter for more information about gritting routes and travel issues around Kent so you can plan your journey.
- Please can you provide a packed lunch from home, just in case school meals cannot be provided.
- Don't forget suitable warm clothing – gloves, hats, scarves, wellies etc. or even a change of clothing.
- If you are a working parent or feel you may have a problem with sudden earlier pick up, please could you put a back-up plan in place with another family member or parent. This will allow staff to leave earlier for their safety if weather dictates.

Thank you for your support in helping St Edward's School remain open during periods of severe snow/ice.

Yours sincerely

S. Atkinson

Mr S Atkinson
Headteacher