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Wanborough Primary School  
The Beanlands  
Wanborough  
Swindon, Wiltshire  
SN4 0EJ

November 2011

Dear Parents

### Arrangements in the Snow

With our unique and unpredictable weather, I would like to inform you of the arrangements we have put into place for the winter should it snow.

A decision as to whether the school will open or not will be announced daily (during the period of predicted snow) at **7am**. The decision will be based on a number of factors which include a local assessment of the conditions; the safety of children, parents and staff; the weather forecast; and the number of staff that are able to attend school to enable effective teaching to be delivered. If the weather is prolonged or extreme, decisions may be made prior to the morning and you will be informed at **8pm** and a message at **7am the following morning will also be sent**.

The decision will be announced through:

- School Text Message Service (*Please give us your mobile number if you don't think we have it, and inform us of any number changes as soon as possible.*)
- School Website ([www.wanboroughprimary.org](http://www.wanboroughprimary.org))
- Local Radio Stations
- Swindon Borough Council

Where there is doubt about the weather, the school will also text parents and display a message on the school website at **7am** when the school is **open**, although local radio stations and the Swindon Borough Council will **not** be informed when the school is open.

The text message and school website will identify the school in one of these three categories when snow/icy conditions are forecast or are current:

- RED - School is closed for the day
- AMBER - School is open with conditions (*see below*)
- GREEN - Normal school day operating

The RED and GREEN categories will take into account the factors described above. If the school is in a state of AMBER the following conditions apply:



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- School is open at normal time – all children who are able to get to school safely are to report to the hall for registration. Pupils must enter through the main reception.
- If your child's journey to school puts you or your child at risk, absences will not be registered as unauthorised during a state of AMBER, however if the school is in a state of GREEN they will be classed as unauthorised unless there is a special reason explained in a covering letter.
- School dinners will not be provided – packed lunch necessary.
- No breakfast club.
- Staff who live in Wanborough and those who can safely arrive on time, plus the help of any school CRB checked parents who are willing to help supervise the children attending, will supervise the children in the hall and on the school field until other staff arrive.
- Early collection of pupils will be possible if forecasts indicate hazardous conditions are on the way or any parent is worried about the safety of transporting their child home. A text and a message on the school website will be sent inviting parents to collect their child if there are deteriorating conditions imminent. This of course could happen on any school day as well!
- Pupils will be organised into temporary classes depending on staff attendance.
- Spare clothing should be packed – as children will have the opportunity to play in the snow at school!

In summary, every effort will be made for the school to open, however I encourage everybody concerned to make their own risk assessments on whether travelling to school is safe. Whether the school is open or closed in snowy conditions, the offer to help clear snow from pathways and car parks would be most welcome!

If you have any queries please do not hesitate to contact the school on 01793 790269.

Yours sincerely

Andy Drury  
Headteacher

