

All Weather Policy

Incorporates Snow And Sun Policy

In the event of inclement weather, including flooding, snow, ice and thunder storms the supervisor, (and if necessary a member of the Management Team), will liaise and after taking into consideration local conditions and advice, decide whether it is safe to open the pre-school, or close the session before the end of the day if the adversity occurs during session time. The decision will be taken taking into account-

- Whether staff are able to travel to pre-school and/or back home
- Whether staffing ratios can be maintained
- Whether the building is safe to open
- Whether there is power/heat/light
- Whether there are other school closures in the area such as the local primary schools

If the decision is taken to close the pre-school whilst the pre-school is in session, parents/carers will be informed via a phone call.

If the decision is taken to close the pre-school due to overnight conditions such as heavy snow, parents/carers will be informed via the setting website.

If the pre-school is open with low numbers staff should use the time/opportunity if possible to update paperwork or clean equipment etc. If the pre-school is closed, and Development Records etc are accessible, we advise staff to use the time getting these or other paperwork up to date. If the decision is taken to close the pre-school or if staff have been unable to reach First Steps (eg due to dangerous or flooded roads), staff will receive their usual remuneration (finances permitting).

During session times where the weather is very cold, snowy or icy, the following measures will be taken-

- Paths are gritted by the church caretaker (from the rear car park to the bungalow door). The front car park is not gritted and parents/carers are advised to use the rear car park.
- If the outside area is icy, outdoor play will either be restricted to useable areas or judged unsafe.
- In very cold weather, outside play times will be judged appropriately.

Parents/carers are advised to provide warm clothes, hats, gloves and suitable footwear. Staff ensure that children are dressed warmly.

In the event of any other adverse conditions, the decision must be taken as to whether it is safe for children to play in the outside area. If the outside area remains open, staff should check that appropriate clothing is worn.

Sun Protection

At First Steps Pre-School we want the staff and children to enjoy the sun safely. We will work with staff and parents to achieve this. It is the responsibility of each parent / carer to apply an 8 hour sun screen to their child before bringing them to pre-school. Parents will be asked to give permission as part of the registration process for staff to apply suncream to their children (their own supply or the pre-school's) if it is necessary – this is usually ONLY because an 8 hour suncream cannot be applied. We will examine our timetabling of activities to focus on outside play before 11am. We will actively encourage all children to wear a sun hat when playing outside. We have a canopy to provide shelter and shade across a part of the play area. We will talk about the sun and its effects on us on a regular basis.

We use advice from 'Sun Smart' – Cancer Research at [www. Sunsmart org.uk](http://www.Sunsmart.org.uk)

This policy was adopted at a meeting of First Steps Fountain Of Life Pre-School

Held on (date) _____

Signed on behalf of the Management
Team _____

Role of signatory (e.g, chairperson etc) _____

Review date _____