

**Learning and Caring Together,  
“...they will flourish in the courts of our God.” (Psalm 92:13)**

Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> January 2020

Dear Parents / Carers

I do not wish to tempt fate, but I am writing to you in relation to Emergency Academy Closure Procedures in the event of adverse weather in the coming months.

The Health and Safety of pupils and staff will always be paramount in making decisions. In the event of adverse weather, I will risk assess whether children can travel safely to and from school and if the site will remain safe throughout the day. I will consider:

- The state of pathways, steps and slopes around the academy
- The condition of roads and pathways in the local area
- If staff/pupil ratios will enable effective care and safeguarding
- If the heating, lighting and water is functioning effectively
- Whether catering can be provided
- The weather forecast
- Any other unforeseen circumstances

When making a decision, I will liaise with my site staff, Eddies, other schools in the local area and the Chair of our Local Academy Council, Miss Sam Ashley. I will endeavour to make a decision and inform you at the earliest opportunity; whenever possible the night before or by 6.45am in the morning, as I know that this will enable you to make necessary arrangements in terms of work and childcare. As you will appreciate, weather conditions can rapidly change but once a decision has been made, it will be final until further notice. We will communicate decisions through:

- Our school website: <https://www.stedwardscheddleton.co.uk/>
- Staffordshire County Council Website:  
<https://www.staffordshire.gov.uk/education/schoolsandcolleges/emergencyclosures/emergencyschoolclosures.aspx>
- This notification will feed through to local radio stations.
- Our emergency telephone line: 0781873 2342 If there are no messages, St Edward's Academy Cheddleton will be open as usual.
- Twitter - @StedwardsC
- Please note that we will not notify via email due to the closure of the school.

Should the academy be open and weather conditions deteriorate significantly during the day, we will initiate early collection from school. We will notify you via email and the communication routes above. Staff ratios on sight will be maintained, ensuring that all children are safe until a Parent / Carer arrives. I know that you will appreciate decisions to close the academy will not be taken lightly and that you will support the rationale of safety as the priority if the need does arise. Fingers and toes crossed that any adverse weather chooses the weekends and / or school holidays!

Yours sincerely



Mrs S Machin  
Principal