



WINWICK ROAD
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Acting Headteacher: Nicola Laughton

9th January 2025

Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope this letter finds you well. I am writing with an update regarding adverse weather conditions.

I am not satisfied that site will be safe enough to operate tomorrow (Friday 10th January) and I am not prepared to put any member of our school community at risk therefore we will be closed. Freezing temperatures are forecast for overnight which will freeze a snowfall which is currently sitting on ice.

There has been significant travel disruption today for some staff and pupils, and there is no indication that these conditions will improve by tomorrow morning.

Our outside spaces including our playgrounds, break out spaces, and the school field, are not safe to use. Pupils have done very well cooperating with staff instruction regarding site safety this week, however, we understand that they may struggle with no access to outdoor spaces for necessary movement breaks.

I am making the decision now so that you have time to make any necessary arrangements that may be needed.

Our school email, willowbank@sthelens.org.uk will be monitored throughout the rest of today and tomorrow for any urgent emails. If you have any safeguarding concerns, please email us.

There are links to home learning activities on our school website under the 'Parents & Carers' section, 'Home Learning' webpage.

I do want to take this opportunity to publicly thank our site team who have worked hard to keep our site safely operating since our return from the Christmas break. This has taken the spreading of significant volumes of grit and salt.

Sincere apologies for any disruption this closure may cause you. Please be assured that I have not made the decision lightly and I appreciate your support in understanding that I cannot knowingly compromise on safety.

The forecast is telling us that temperatures will warm up on Sunday and Monday, so we are expecting no disruption to school next week. We will expect to welcome pupils back to school at 8:45am on Monday 13th January.

Yours sincerely,

Nicola Laughton
Acting Headteacher
Willow Bank School

NB: All visitors to Willow Bank School will be expected to produce up to date photographic ID

