

MMN/KCR

23<sup>rd</sup> November, 2010

Dear Parents, Carers and Pupils,

### **SEVERE WEATHER CONDITIONS**

As we approach the onset of winter I thought it would be timely to write to parents and carers regarding the routines that we shall use if we need to close our school due to severe weather.

The easiest way to establish whether the school is open is to log on to our website [www.kingstoneschool.co.uk](http://www.kingstoneschool.co.uk) which will be updated before 7.00 am. A message will be logged at the very top of the front page if the school is going to close. For those families that do not have internet access, the school phone system will also carry a message informing parents and carers of the current situation. Receptionists will be operational from 8.00 am if the school is open.

We will also communicate to families via local radio stations (Dearne FM, Radio Sheffield and Hallam FM), as well as using a text messaging system that we have put in place. This will obviously only work if we have the correct contact details for parents and carers, so if you have changed your mobile phone number in recent months please contact school so that we may update our records.

Our absolute commitment is to keep the school open whenever it's safe to do so. That means that even if there is snow on the ground we may well be open, however, it would be appropriate for pupils to wear boots or sturdy trainers as well as warm weather proof jackets. It would be worth considering bringing a spare pair of shoes to change into rather than have cold wet feet all day.

At the beginning of this year we had our first 'proper winter' for many years and should it reoccur, we are determined that we should adapt and ensure that it doesn't mean that the education of the children and families that we work with comes to a halt.

I would like to extend my thanks once again to everyone for their support during what can be a challenging period. We will get through it (indeed, dare I say enjoy the conditions) if we are able to behave sensibly, safely and keep perspective.

With very best wishes,

Matthew Milburn  
Headteacher