

Clergate Public School – SNOW POLICY



Purpose:

The purpose of this safety plan is to outline procedures for staff, parents and students to follow in the event of snowfalls which cause roads to close. If roads are closed in the morning, individual staff need to determine whether or not it is safe for them to travel to school, remain at home or to proceed to the closest school. If snow falls during the day and roads begin to close, procedures need to be in place for the safe travel home by students and staff. In such situations, pre-ordained procedures will eliminate confusion and ensure the safety of staff and students.

Implementation:

Staff, parents and students should be aware of the following:

Procedures:

Snowfalls resulting in roads being closed prior to school commencing

In the event of snowfalls, staff and parents should listen to the local radio stations (2GZ & 105.9FM) whether roads on which they normally travel have been closed and/ or check on the 'livetraffic' website for road closures. If roads are closed the principal will contact staff and inform them of the situation.

Orange Buslines will contact the local radio stations if there is a need for morning buses to be cancelled. Parents are asked to listen to the radio for bus cancellations. Parents who are driving their children to school are to check for road closures before leaving home. The school will upload an alert on School Stream and Facebook if the roads are impassable and the school is without any staff.

Staff will arrive at school at the earliest possible time when the roads are open.

Staff who are able to safely get to school should do so and sign in on arrival.

Staff who are able to make it to another local public school should do so and sign in on arrival. Staff able to make it to school later in the day should ensure that they sign on when they arrive. The Principal will contact the School Education Director.

Snow falling during the day resulting in roads being closed:

If snow falls during the day, the Principal will contact the RMS or local council to check on road conditions and whether or not roads may become impassable or the Principal will make the decision based on local knowledge.

Bus Pickup In the event of heavy snowfall during the day Orange Buslines will contact the school regarding any changes to afternoon bus pick up. Parents will be contacted about student pick up on either School Stream or Facebook. Parents without social media will be contacted by phone.

Parent Pickup Parents who regularly drive their children to school will be asked to come immediately to collect them.

The decision for staff needing to travel home will be made for safety reasons. In keeping with the Department of Education's policy of having two adults in schools at all times, if all other staff members have left the school the Principal will ask a parent to stay until all children have been collected.

Those children who regularly walk to school will be sent home. The necessary arrangements will be made with parents when they are contacted. In the event a parent is unable to be contacted, the emergency contact person will be contacted to make suitable arrangements or the arrangements outlined in the permission note will be followed.

Parents are encouraged to contact the school on 6365 8256 if in any doubt about arrangements.