

Morville CE Primary School (Academy)



Gritting Policy

Date of policy: **January 2020**

Rationale

It is essential for schools to have a reasonable working and written gritting policy in place. It is essential that assessments are made to establish in plenty of time - at the beginning of each day, during the day and at the end of the school day to ascertain the need to implement the gritting policy or not. It is essential that a school exercises its full duty of care and ensures safe access to and from the school entrance and whilst moving around the school during the day for all staff, pupils, parents and visitors to the school.

Policy in Practice: What the school does to assist in the event of icy weather conditions

At Morville CE Primary School it is not practical to grit the entire site, but as part of the gritting policy, safe routes have been identified and communicated to staff, pupils and parents. There is a gritting priority plan included at appendix 1 (and a site map diagram in appendix 2). The site map diagram is also displayed in the Head of School's office.

The Head of School/Site Manager arrives by 7.45am each day and is responsible for putting down grit. In addition, it is common practice for the school gates to remain locked in the mornings so that entry into school can be controlled until gritting is completed, thereby minimising the risks to children parents and visitors.

At playtimes a decision as to whether children are to be allowed outside will be made by the teacher on duty in conjunction with the Head of School.

In extreme cases the Head of School, in consultation with the Executive Headteacher, may decide that there is no option but to close the school if there is presented a severe health and safety risk. This is done in discussion with the Chair of the Local Academy Board and then the local radio stations will be informed. (See Emergency Closure Policy)

What the school expect of the users of the school site during icy weather conditions:

Good communication is essential. Parents receive a copy of specific instructions during the autumn and winter months via newsletters. Children have the processes explained to them in the classroom. It is expected that parents adhere to these instructions and pass all relevant information to friends and relatives who may also come to school to bring and fetch children.

During these conditions we all have difficulty getting to our place of work and dropping off children. We ask parents to be responsible and plan more time for their journey, suitable footwear for having to walk further, wrapping up to keep warm

etc.... **Parents should not expect to be able to park close to the school at these times.** Parents and visitors are expected to use the gritted paths rather than walk across the snow and ice.

Policy written: January 2020

To be reviewed October 2020

Appendix 1: Gritting Priority Plan

The following routes will be gritted in the event of ice and/or snow...

- 1) A path leading from the main car park into the school office.
- 2) This path is extended to the rear gate and down to the back door for Breakfast club.
- 3) A path from the main car park to the back gate for access to the classrooms.
- 4) A path from the pedestrian gate to join the path from the main car park, this is then extended to meet the path from the main gate to the back door.

All routes are shown in Appendix 2: Gritting Priority Plan Site Map

Appendix 2: Gritting Priority Plan Site Map

Morville School Site Layout

