

Wise Owls Childcare

ADVERSE WEATHER POLICY

Wise Owls Childcare have an adverse weather policy to ensure we are prepared for adverse weather such as heavy snow/storms. In the event of disruption caused by adverse weather, the prime concern of the setting must always be the safety of the children, their families, and our staff. As a company, we risk assess the safety of all before any decisions are made regarding the operation of our services. Under these circumstances, every effort is made to minimise disruption and to stay open.

DAY NURSERY

All our staff are expected to attempt to get to work safely. In the event of staff shortages, every effort will be made to organise replacement staff from other settings. The decision to close or alter normal opening times will only be made if ratios cannot be maintained or if it is felt the safety health or welfare of the children is compromised. Should heavy snow fall be forecast, the Operations Director and the Manager together will take the decision to close the nursery early. Parents will be contacted to arrange early collection of their children.

Any decisions will be made by the Manager in conjunction with the Director. The first concern will be the safety of the children, their parents, and the staff team. Parents will be contacted by email in the first instance and then by phone.

As per our terms and conditions, if the setting closes due to circumstances outside of our control, no refund will be given.

BREAKFAST, AFTER SCHOOL & HOLIDAY CLUBS

As a company, our priority is to assess the safety of all before decisions are made to operate breakfast, after school and holiday clubs. In the event of heavy, overnight snowfall, parents are asked to observe the following protocols/considerations:

1. In the anticipation of adverse weather, breakfast club may open later whilst it is established whether schools that we cater for are open. Schools usually update their website and inform parents between 7.00-8.00am, in this case the breakfast club would only open from 8.00am if the schools are open.
2. Updates will be posted on Wise Owls social and media pages and additional information emails will be sent.
3. Providing our staff can attend and appropriate ratios can be upheld, we will endeavour to operate a normal timetable in the schools that are open.
4. If the school is open, we aim to remain open until the end of the usual session (6.15pm).

5. Any afternoon extreme weather may result in early collection of your child/ren. You will receive a phone call from our staff to advise early collection. If you work further away, we kindly ask that you make other arrangements for an emergency contact to collect your child for you.
6. If the host school is closed, Wise Owls will not be able to operate at that particular setting.
7. For up-to-date information, please check social media (Facebook and Instagram) and emails info@wiseowlschildcare.co.uk before calling the office: 01628 620013

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ADVERSE WEATHER POLICY SUMMARY – STAFF

1. When anticipating extreme weather, a plan of action should be created so the required action to take is clear.
2. In the event of extreme weather, it is expected that all staff safely attempt to get to work.
3. Every effort will be made by the Operations Director to replace any absent staff using available staff from other settings.
4. If appropriate childcare ratios are unable to be achieved or it is felt that the safety of children or staff is compromised, the decision to close the setting must be made in conjunction with the Operations Director and in her absence, The Managing Director.
5. In the event of heavy snowfall or school closures, the decision may be taken to close the setting early. Parents will be emailed and if necessary, called by managers to inform them of this decision.

ADVERSE WEATHER POLICY SUMMARY- PARENTS

1. Providing the safety of children and staff can be maintained and the appropriate ratios achieved, we will endeavour to operate a normal timetable and keep disruption to a minimum.
2. Any decision of early closure or complete closure of the facility will be made by The Operations Director in conjunction with The Manager.
3. Updates will be posted on Wise Owls social and media pages and additional information emails will be sent.
4. Any extreme afternoon weather may result in early closure. Emails will be sent with this information and followed up by a phone call if necessary. If you work further away, we kindly ask that you make other arrangements for an emergency contact to collect your child for you.

5. For up-to-date information, please check social media (Facebook and Instagram) and emails info@wiseowlschildcare.co.uk before calling the office: 01628 620013

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