

Thursday, 1st March 2018

Dear Parents and Families,

RE: School Closure Due to Adverse Weather – week beginning 26th February 2018

This week we have seen some exceptionally adverse weather. I wanted to explain how we make a decision to close and how we support our families in such circumstances.

Local and national guidance to schools is that we should remain open wherever possible to minimise disruption to children's education and inconvenience to families.

We know that in staying open we are asking everyone to leave their homes and tackle the weather in both directions. On the other hand, in closing we are forcing students to forego a valuable day of learning as well as the safety and security of school. Additionally, family members may miss a day of paid work or need to find last minute childcare.

Therefore, when adverse weather is expected the chief executive and headteachers consult local colleagues to weigh up the risks of opening against the disruption caused by closure.

We aim to publicise our decision by 7.30am each morning through our website, 'East Sussex School Closures' and our text messaging service and social media platforms.
www.ryecollege.co.uk / www.eastsussex.gov.uk/educationandlearning/schools/schoolclosures

When we close, we fully expect families to enjoy the snow together and at least try to build a snowperson. However, we still encourage youngsters to treat a snow day as a school day. We set work on 'ClassCharts' or ask for coursework, revision or homework to be completed. For younger children, Rye Community Primary School helps families structure an unplanned day at home with an engaging range of suggested activities:

www.ryeprimary.e-sussex.sch.uk/files/documents/Snow_Day_Homework_v2_28.2.18.pdf.

We'd like to thank you for your support during the adverse weather. Closing our schools is not an easy decision to make but by working with you we trust we can minimise the impact on all our lives. Stay safe and warm.

Yours sincerely,



Barry Blakelock (Mr.)
Headteacher
Rye College and Studio School