

Severe Weather Arrangements/School Closure

Advice to parents/carers:

The school will only close in exceptional circumstances, therefore, please assume that the school will be open. The school will only close, or close to some year groups, in the event of a major problem, e.g. no heating/boiler breakdown/power failure or a large number of staff being unable to reach school so that there is not a sufficient number of adults to care for pupils, otherwise the school will remain open.

If the school is closed, this will be posted first on the school website www.graysconvent.school.

Information will also be available on the following websites: <https://www.heart.co.uk/essex/> or www.bbc.co.uk/bbc Essex, and by listening to Heart Essex on 96.3 FM or 102.6 FM, where the closure will be either listed or announced.

In the event of the weather seriously deteriorating during the school day, pupils will normally be kept in school until the end of the afternoon and released at the normal time. If the school were enforced to implement an unforeseen early closure, parents will be contacted via SMS or email. Telephone contact would be made where necessary. No pupil will be released from school without contact with parents.

During snowy/very cold weather students may wear additional layers of clothing to keep them warm including:

- boots for journey to school (change at school)
- a warm coat or jacket in line with school uniform guidance (plain, dark, no logos)
- a white thermal layer under their blouse

If a pupil is sitting an exam and the school is closed as a result of extreme weather, we will do our best to ensure pupils take the exam at the next sitting. If this is not possible, we will apply for special consideration. However, if the school is open but the weather is bad, pupils should do their best to get into school as long as parents think it is safe to do so.