**Harrowbarrow School**

**Emergency Closure Information for Parents 2016 - 2017**

Winter is fast approaching and therefore we felt it may be useful for parents to have information about our emergency closure procedures.

The school may be closed for children at short notice due to a number of circumstances, for example:-

* Problems due to inclement weather
* Problems with heating or electricity
* Problems due to water leaks

**CLOSURE BEFORE SCHOOL STARTS**

As Breakfast Club starts at 8.00am, a decision to close the school will generally be made by 7.40am. It is important that as few people as possible are phoning the school between 7.40am and 8.30am so that staff are able to provide vital information. Please wait to be contacted by a school representative. Provided we have an up to date mobile telephone number, we will text all parents at the same time – this text will be sent to the person listed as the first contact on our records. We would ask that you acknowledge receipt of the text.

Information will also be posted on the school website and broadcast on Pirate FM and BBC Radio Cornwall.

The above procedures will continue for each day the school remains closed.

**TRANSPORT PROBLEMS**

There are occasions where sufficient staff are able to get to school to enable us to open, but parents are unsure about getting their child/children to school due to local road conditions. On these occasions, parents must make their own decision as to whether it is safe to bring their child/children to school. Resulting absences will be recorded as ‘authorised’.

**CLOSURE DURING THE SCHOOL DAY**

The school will only close if the situation is severe. Parents who are concerned about local conditions are welcome to collect their children early.

If we do have to close we will do so by the following routes:-

* Parents who have registered a mobile telephone number will be contacted by text message. Please reply to the message so that we can follow up with telephone calls to those who have not responded.
* If we cannot contact you, the children will remain in school with staff until they are collected.
* It is important that parents do not keep telephoning the school office as this prevents us from making arrangements to send the children home.