



SEVERE WEATHER POLICY

Introduction

Stepping Stones will endeavour to remain open where possible during bad weather conditions.

Policy

The opening of the setting will depend on several aspects, including;

1. The number of staff that are able to travel to work. Stepping Stones will remain open unless satisfactory staff/child ratios cannot be maintained.
2. Whether the building is at a suitable temperature for the children.
3. Access to the building and immediate area being safe.

A decision will be made each day by the Manager or Deputy as to whether the sessions are open. The website and Facebook will be updated, and the answerphone message where possible should the setting be closing/closed.

If weather conditions worsen throughout the day a decision to close early may be necessary, in order to ensure that all children and staff are able to get home safely in poor conditions. If this is the case, we will contact parents/carers via telephone as soon as possible to give enough time to arrange for early collection of children.

Should the severe weather occur during a school term, and the local schools close before 9.00am, and we remain open, we will accept school children in as normal for Breakfast Club, but arrangements must be made to collect the children by 8.45am. We cannot retain these children on site after this time. If no arrangements have been made at drop off for collection we reserve the right to refuse the child entry to the setting. School children attending Afterschool Club will be able to join this session from 3.00pm as normal. We will not refund any Breakfast Club and Afterschool sessions not attended due to local school closure.

School closure during the day is subject to the same conditions above – please note we will not be able to collect school children from school any earlier than the time they are in session with us, this is due to staffing ratios and the safety of staff and children.