

## **RYECROFT C. E. ( C ) MIDDLE SCHOOL: GRITTING PLAN**

The school recognises that arrangements should be made to minimise risks from snow and ice and governors have adopted the LA health and safety guidance on adverse weather reference no: G61. This may involve gritting, snow clearing and closure of some areas of the school site. All reasonable efforts will be made to ensure that the establishment remains open as normal. A risk assessment is in place which covers the hazards associated with snow and ice on the premises and identifies the control measures which need to be implemented. This risk assessment is reviewed annually during the autumn term

The Caretaker, Headteacher and Assistant Heads monitor local weather forecasts in order to react to situations as quickly as possible and implement any special measures. These measures may include staff starting work earlier to commence the gritting plan and the Caretaker will attend the site as soon as possible in the event of snow and ice.

Areas will be cleared in the following order of priority and treated with salt/grit to maintain a clear pathway especially where temperatures remain below freezing:

1. Entrance to staff/visitors car park
2. A path across the staff/visitors car park
3. A path from staff/visitors car park to main entrance
4. A path from the main entrance to the pedestrian gate
5. A path from the entrance to the staff/visitors car park to the rear of the school
6. A path across the car park outside the kitchen in front of the bike shelters to the rear of school
7. A path to the kitchen entrance from the car park outside the kitchen
8. A path along the rear of the school to include the steps from the girls' changing rooms. If the steps remain in a dangerous condition, access will be prevented.
9. A path from the parents' car park to the corner of the school
10. A path from the corner of the school past the outside of room 9 and the art room
11. A path between the mobiles and the art room, food tech room and D&T room
12. A path from the rear of school to the school entrance in the quiet area

As time permits, other areas may be cleared and gritted as required.

Where the Headteacher, Assistant Heads or Caretaker have concerns over the safety of certain external pathways, areas, playground, etc., affected areas will be taken out of use and marked clearly using signs/cones/tape, as appropriate, to ensure that everyone is made aware.

Before the school gates are open at 8.30am, after school closes at 3.40pm and when all school buses have collected pupils, parents and carers are responsible for ensuring the wellbeing of their children.

When the playground remains excessively slippery due to compacted snow and ice, it may be necessary for pupils to be accommodated indoors at break times. If the playground does remain in use, it may be appropriate to increase supervision levels. Communication with staff is via the staffroom notice board, e-mail and verbally.

All staff are aware of the risk assessment, the LA model policy and the gritting plan.

Parents are advised during the autumn term of the plans and procedures put in place for dealing with snow and ice around school premises and information is published on the school website.

Procedures are in place should a decision be taken to close the school due to bad weather and all parents and staff are advised of these procedures during the autumn term and via the website.