

RCCS FAQs: Emergency Closure

When might the school need to be closed?



This FAQ sheet concerns the need to close the school with little or no advanced warning in exceptional circumstances. The most likely reason for this is extreme weather conditions, like snow or ice, which make the site unsafe, or which make travel to and from the site dangerous. It may however also be necessary on other occasions; examples would include heavy staff absence due to illness, heating failure, or other health and safety issues on site such as burst pipes etc

Who takes the decision to close the school?

This is the responsibility of the Head Teacher, or in his absence the most senior member of staff present.

How and when can I find out if the school is closed and when it will reopen?

The best way is by following the school on social media, either Twitter or Facebook, or by checking the school status on our website, www.risca.org.uk. We try to post information as early as we can, and if the decision is required early in the morning we would try to inform you between 7am and 7.30am. During bad weather you can also check by accessing the CCBC website, www.caerphilly.gov.uk. This is particularly useful if you also have children in other schools.



If the school is closed will it be for a whole day?



Not necessarily. We may decide to open later in the day, especially if weather is bad overnight but likely to improve. We would then advise you we intended to conduct a site inspection and update you with a message later in the morning. In other circumstances we may decide to open for certain pupils only. If the weather turns nasty during the day we may decide to close early.

What about school work?

Pupils are aware of various on line learning platforms we use, such as Google classroom, Hwb, and GCSE Pod for KS4. Pupils can also access the excellent free resources provided by the BBC on their websites. If Internet access is a problem there is always revision to do or homework to catch up. We would also encourage children to read. If bad weather is expected teachers will set work for pupils in advance

What about time lost to examination classes?

Teachers at RCCS have been and continue to be generous with their time after school, and we will always endeavour where possible to make up for lost time.