

# **Adverse Weather Policy**

**Policy Statement:** At the Childrens Learning Centre, the safety, health, and well-being of children in our care are paramount, especially during adverse weather conditions. This policy details our procedures to ensure children, staff, and visitors remain safe and secure during adverse weather conditions.

## **Definition of Adverse Weather:**

- Adverse weather includes severe weather conditions that may risk the safety or health of children and staff, such as storms, snow, flooding, extreme heat, cold temperatures, and hazardous air quality.

## **Monitoring Weather Conditions:**

- Regular monitoring of reliable weather sources to anticipate and proactively respond to potential adverse conditions.
- Staff are informed and trained to interpret weather warnings and forecasts to support timely decision-making.

## **Decision Making:**

- Decisions about operating the setting during adverse weather will be taken by the owner and or centre manager.
- Decisions prioritize children's safety, emotional well-being, and health considerations.

## **Closure of the Setting:**

- The setting will close if weather conditions pose significant safety or health risks to children and staff.
- Immediate notification to parents/guardians through approved communication channels (phone calls and emails)
- Ofsted will be notified of any such closure.

**Delayed Opening:**

- The setting may operate a delayed opening if weather conditions are anticipated to improve, ensuring safer travel and attendance for families and staff.
- Clear, timely communication will be made to parents/guardians regarding delayed opening details.

**Early Closure:**

- Early closure may be necessary if conditions deteriorate during operational hours to guarantee safe travel home for parents, children and staff.
- Parents/guardians will be promptly informed about early closures, expected collection times, and safety considerations.

**Child Pickup:**

- Parents/guardians are advised to assess travel safety conditions and use personal discretion for travel decisions during adverse weather.
- If parents face challenges in picking up their child, each of the other contacts for the child will be promptly informed. The setting will ensure alternative safe arrangements are promptly put in place.

**Safe Shelter and Essential Provisions:**

- In situations where children must remain onsite during adverse weather, adequate shelter, food, water, and necessary comfort items will be available.
- Maintaining children's health, comfort, and emotional security during prolonged conditions will be strictly followed.

**Communication:**

- Efficient, clear, and timely communication will be maintained throughout any adverse weather scenario, ensuring that emergency contact information is accurate and updated regularly.