Birches Head Academy

Adverse Weather Policy (6.12)

Policy Information:

Policy Lead Date prepared Frequency of Review Review Date

Approved by Principal:

ACODAD'

Katie Dixon

Premises Manager - Mr K Bagley 29 June 2021 4-Yearly 29 June 2025

Approved by Chair of Governors:

Roisin Maguire



During periods of 'Bad Weather' the Site Support Team will, under normal circumstances, discuss the staffing arrangements for attempting to open the school with the Principal before the end of each working day.

In the event of a sudden change in 'weather conditions' or over a weekend/holiday period the Principal/ Site Supervisor will contact the relevant members of the Site Support Team to ensure that two members of the team are available on site if required (this will usually be the team members on the 'early' shift).

Once on site the Site Support Team to liaise with the Principal and establish if it is practical to open the school.

The Site Support Team will contact external contractors if required and then clear Snow/Ice in the following order of priority:

- 1. See appendix 1 for gritting routes and priorities.
- 2. External contractors if called will grit areas shown on appendix 2.

Pedestrian gates should remain locked until the spreading procedure in the given area is completed and any steps or areas of steep gradient are suitably cleared of snow or ice.

When snow or extremely cold weather is forecast the Site Support Team should give due consideration to the merits of 'gritting' key areas before the end of each working day.

Where ever possible the Site Support Team should use mechanical aids provided to apply 'gritting' material. (Mechanical Spreader)

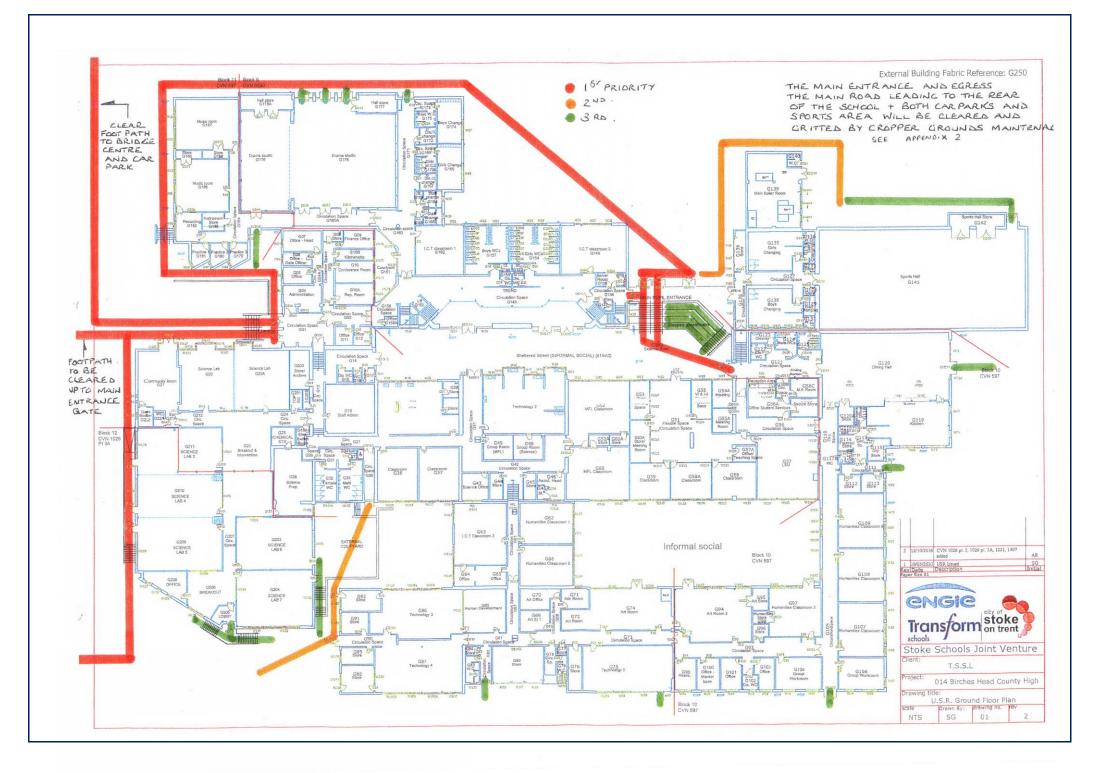
Site Staff should always wear the appropriate PPE provided when 'gritting' or snow clearing.

There must always be 2 members of the Site Support Team on site during the execution of the 'Bad Weather Procedure'*. Wherever possible they should work in the same area and be in visible contact with each other. If working in different areas of the school or parts of the site the Site Support Team members must contact each other at least every 30 minutes to ensure their safety.

In extreme conditions, heavy snowfall and extreme cold, anyone involved in executing the 'Bad Weather Procedure' must not work outdoors for more than 1 hour without taking a 15 minute break. Breaks should be taken indoors in areas with access to warm drinks. Precautions should be taken by staff so as not to expose their body to rapid temperature changes.

* If it is not possible for two members of the Site Support Team to be on site, the 'lone worker' must contact the Principal before entering site. The Principal will give verbal instructions as to the procedure to be adopted.

Appendix 1: Site staff Gritting Route



Appendix 2:

External Contractor's Gritting Plan

Road and car parks within red lines are gritted by external company.

