



ST MARY'S CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL

a Catholic Voluntary Academy

Newbold Road • Upper Newbold • Chesterfield • S41 8AG

Headteacher: Mrs M Dengate M.Phil

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Our Ref: L2659 MD

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Dear Parents/Carers

Transport During Severe Weather Conditions – Annual Note Home

We need you to discuss with your child what she/he is to do if ever the school has to close early. This would only be in severe weather conditions when there is doubt as to whether all of our children would get home safely should school remain open until 3.35 pm. Severe snow conditions sometimes mean that bus companies cancel services. We need to make arrangements to get pupils home quickly and **THERE IS NOT THE TIME FOR CHILDREN TO START TELEPHONING PARENTS TO ASK WHAT THEY ARE TO DO.** Are they to go straight home? Or to a relative's home? Or to a parent at work? **Please ensure that your child knows what they are to do should the school need to close early. PARENTS ARE REQUESTED MOST STRONGLY NOT TO TELEPHONE SCHOOL UNLESS THERE IS AN EMERGENCY** as phone lines become 'jammed' and are not then available for us to use to make the necessary arrangements with bus companies. We will use our web site to keep parents informed: www.st-maryshigh.derbyshire.sch.uk. Go to 'Home Page', 'Latest News' and we will try to text parents.

The arrangements we would hope to make if there was a heavy fall of snow in the morning session, are as follows: early lunch at 12 o'clock, and buses leave school as soon as possible after lunch. The bus companies are very good and do everything they can to get the children as near to their homes as possible. We will endeavour to keep local radio stations up to date with arrangements. We know that you will support us in ensuring that under no circumstances are pupils to wander around the town, they are to go home on the earliest available bus.

If there have been heavy snowfalls during the night parents must make their own decision as to whether or not it is safe to send children to school the next morning. If the school is to be closed, all bus companies and local radios will be contacted and information will be posted on the school website and a message will be left on the school telephone system advising of the school closure. We will email and use the Connect Ed App to communicate with parents as well.

Please explain to your child/children your instructions regarding travel during severe weather conditions. If you have any queries regarding any of the above please contact Mrs Cain at school.

Yours faithfully

Mrs M Dengate
Headteacher

Mrs S Cain
Deputy Headteacher

Live, Love and Learn in the Light of Christ
