

Larbert High School

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Falkirk Council
Children's Services

Rector: Jon Reid

4 March 2018

Dear Parent / Carer

Return to School following Adverse Weather Closures

I am pleased that all pupils will be returning to school on Monday 5 March following the recent closures – time to get back to normal! I would also like to thank all pupils and staff who tried to maintain an element of learning and teaching, posting and completing work online via Twitter, our website and Google Classroom.

I am now after your help to make sure our pupils have a safe return tomorrow and over the next few days. As a slow thaw takes over, conditions will undoubtedly start to improve but may remain treacherous over the next couple of days so extra care and time will need to be taken travelling to and from school.

Snowballs

Undoubtedly, snow and children are a classic formula for snowball fights. The expectation that the school will be able to curtail this is unrealistic and I'm sure everyone remembers having fun in the snow as they were growing up too!

However, as the snow turns to ice and becomes mixed with grit and debris from the clear up, there are obviously increased risks in throwing snowballs. Therefore, I would like to ask you to reinforce with your child that snowballs cannot be thrown in the school grounds and that it should be restricted only to the football and rugby pitches, for those that want to take part. If they don't want to take part, they don't have to be there.

Secondly, and most importantly, throwing snowballs at passing cars and traffic is absolutely prohibited and extremely dangerous – please strongly reinforce this with your child. Each time we have snow I always have to respond and deal with a small number of shocked and angry motorists who have been 'targeted' by a small minority of our pupils.

I don't want to have to deal with cracked windscreens, or worse, have to call you to let you know that your child has been knocked over by a car that has skidded onto a pavement from the shock of being hit by a snowball. I don't want any of our young people being criminalised as a result of



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taking part in what might appear to them to be a bit of 'harmless fun'. Please discuss with your child the extreme dangers of such behaviour and the need to be respectful to those around them.

Dropping Off Pupils to/from School

Carrongrange Road (with the chicanes) is a priority 1 road for the Council Roads Team for clearing and gritting, however, they can't make the snow disappear from it. It would therefore be helpful and sensible if parents could avoid this road over the next couple of days in order to ease congestion for local residents and staff trying to enter and leave the car park.

Carrongrange Avenue (with the speed bumps, adjacent to our building) is not adopted by the Council and so will be serviced by MITIE. Please avoid this road completely as it is the main thoroughfare for pupils into the school.

As a result of the closures we also have a number of events, including examinations and assessments to rearrange. We will be in touch about this in due course.

Thank you for your support and I appreciate your patience and cooperation over the last few days. Now, let's get back and pick up where we left off!

Yours sincerely



Jon Reid
Rector