

# St. George and St. Martin Catholic Academy

## GRITTING POLICY 2020/21

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### **Aims**

To specify what the school does to assist in the event of icy weather conditions.

### **Description of practice**

At St. George and St. Martin it is not practical to grit the entire site, but as part of the gritting policy, safe routes have been identified and communicated to staff, pupils and parents.

There is a gritting priority plan included at appendix1 along with photographs of the areas to be gritted. The site supervisor arrives at 7.00am each morning.

At playtimes a decision as to whether children are to be allowed outside will be made by the senior teacher on duty in conjunction with a member of the Senior Management Team.

In extreme cases the Principal may decide that there is no option but to close the school if there is presented a severe health and safety risk. If this is done the Chair of the Academy Committee and the local radio stations will be informed.

An answer phone message will be recorded in the event of heavy snow to inform parents of recent developments and any impending closure.

Should there be snow fall during the day or a need for gritting to take place during the day, the Principal ensures all paths are clear and gritted.

### **Expectations of users**

Good communication is essential. Parents receive a copy of specific instructions during the autumn and winter months via the memos.

Children have the processes explained to them in the classroom. It is expected that parents adhere to these instructions and pass all relevant information to friends and relatives who may also come to school to bring and fetch children.

During these conditions we all have difficulty getting to our place of work and dropping off children around the city, we ask parents to be responsible and plan more time for their journey, suitable footwear for having to walk further, wrapping up to keep warm etc....parents should not expect to be able to park close to the school at these times!

Parents, staff and visitors are expected to use the gritted paths rather than walk across the snow and ice.

Should any pathways need to be removed from action, all users will be informed via letters.

**Signed by:**

**Chair of Academy Committee Representatives.....Date .....**

**Principal ..... Date .....**

**Agreed at the Academy Committee Meeting on .....**

**Date of Next Review: Autumn 2021**