

Health and safety procedures

Adverse Weather

At Castor and Ailsworth Preschool, the safety, health, and well-being of children in our care are paramount, especially during adverse weather conditions. This policy aligns with the revised Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS, September 2026), detailing our procedures to ensure children, staff, and visitors remain safe and secure during adverse weather.

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.

Decision Making:

Decisions about operating the setting during adverse weather will be taken by the manager or designated responsible staff member.

If Castor school closes, our decision will be influenced by this.

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, texts, emails, digital platforms) by 8.15am.

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 children and staff.

Parents/guardians will be promptly informed about early closures, expected collection times, and safety considerations.