



Adverse Weather

May 2025 – June 2026

EYFS: 3.55

At Acorn Childcare Centre we have an adverse weather policy in place to ensure our nursery is prepared for all weather conditions that might affect the running of the nursery such as floods, snow and heat waves.

If any of these impact on the ability of the nursery to open or operate, we will contact all parents using our online operating system POGO, this will generate a group text message to inform all parents of the closure of Acorn Childcare Centre due to inclement weather conditions. Further information will be conveyed to parents throughout the day either by email or a group text generated by POGO.

We will not take children outdoors where we judge that weather conditions make it unsafe to do so.

Flood

In the case of a flood, we will follow our critical incident procedure to enable all children and staff to be safe and continuity of care to be planned for.

Snow or other severe weather

If high snowfall, or another severe weather condition such as dense fog, is threatened during a nursery day then the manager will take the decision as to whether to close the nursery. This decision will consider the safety of the children, their parents and the staff team. In the event of a planned closure during the nursery day, we will contact all parents to arrange for collection of their child.

In the event of staff shortages due to snow or other severe weather, we will contact all available off duty staff and/or agency staff and group the children differently until they are able to arrive. If we are unable to maintain statutory ratio requirements after all avenues are explored, we will contact Ofsted to inform them of this issue, recording all details in our incident file. If we feel the safety, health or welfare of the children is compromised then we will take the decision to close the nursery.

Heat wave

We are committed to ensuring that all children are fully protected from the dangers of too much sun and UV rays as severe sunburn in childhood can lead to the development of malignant melanoma (the most dangerous type of skin cancer) in later life.

Staff will make day-to-day decisions about the length of time spent outside depending on the strength of the sun and find the right balance to protect children from sunburn by following the NHS guidance. Please also see our sun safety policy for further details.

This policy was adopted on	Signed on behalf of the nursery	Date for review
<i>January 2024</i>	<i>Lorna Hodgett</i>	<i>June 2025</i>
<i>Reviewed May 2025 - SK</i>		<i>June 2026</i>