

During the winter snow and ice, and extreme bad weather can cause widespread and prolonged disruption. In line with the guidance from The Department for Education, we will make every effort, subject to health and safety requirements, to keep the school open so that students can continue to learn.

Each day during a period of bad weather we will make a risk assessment. If circumstances change to such an extent that the Headteacher believes conditions are unsafe or if we are advised by bus companies that road conditions are deteriorating, closure on the morning or early closure during the day may be necessary.

Should we need to close the school, we will notify parents through the following channels:

- Edulink email message. Please ensure you have notified us of any change to contact information;
- Home page message on the school website;
- Borden Grammar School FaceBook and Twitter pages;

Other sources of information available: Kent Closures website for full details of school closures. <http://www.kentclosures.co.uk>. We also recommend parents sign up for SMS/Email alerts on the Kent Closures website. This service will send an SMS or email alert to let parents know if Borden Grammar School is closed. Parents can also listen to KMFM, or Heart FM to hear if the school has closed.

#### **What can you do to help?**

- It is important that parents monitor their email as well as the school website/social media should the weather conditions deteriorate. Please do not call the school before doing this as this will tie up communication when it is needed the most.
- Please visit <http://www.kent.gov.uk/winter> for more information about gritting routes and travel issues around Kent so you can plan your journey.
- Please can you provide a packed lunch from home in case school meals cannot be provided.
- Don't forget suitable warm clothing – gloves, hats, scarves, wellies etc. or even a change of clothing.
- If you are a working parent or feel you may have a problem with a sudden requirement of an earlier pick up, please can you try to put a back-up plan in place with another family member or parent and inform the school. This will allow staff to leave earlier for their safety if weather dictates.