



# **Kingsmead School**

## **Extreme Weather Strategy**

Created: June 2023  
Reviewed: September 2025  
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## **Introduction**

This strategy sets out the school's arrangements for managing extreme adverse weather conditions. The purpose of the strategy is to inform the decision-making process for any potential control measures required to ensure the health, safety and wellbeing of all students, staff and visitors to the school. The strategy also considers the safety of students, staff, visitors, parents and carers during their journey to and from the school.

Fundamentally, every effort is made to keep the school open and operating under circumstances as close to normal as is reasonably possible to provide the highest quality of education that circumstances allow.

Where needed, the strategy also covers the methods of communicating changes to normal procedures to all stakeholders, including students, staff, visitors, parents and carers.

## **Extreme Weather Monitoring**

The school uses the [UKHSA Weather-Health Alert system](#) to make informed decisions about the requirement for control measures. This alert system references weather warnings given out by the MET Office. Other agencies, such as police or local government, may also be taken into consideration where they issue relevant warnings.

## **Communication**

Where necessary, control measures will be communicated with all relevant stakeholders via:

- Messaging on the 'My Child At School' app
- Social Media
- Notices on the school website

# Extreme Hot Weather

The UKHSA Heat-Health alert system operates from the 1<sup>st</sup> of June to the 30<sup>th</sup> of September. An out of season health alert may still be issued if extreme heat is expected.

The UKHSA system issues four levels of alert; green, yellow, amber and red. School responses to the different levels are detailed in the following table:

UKHSA platform alert	Conditions	Measures
<b>Green</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Normal</li></ul>	None
<b>Yellow</b>  Assess a need for a response	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Working areas are below 22 degrees*</li></ul>	<p>Reduce exposure to the sun</p> <p>Ensure regular access to water</p> <p>Staff exercise common sense around removing blazers/suit jackets and loosening of ties in lessons</p> <p>Windows should be opened when it is cooler outside and closed when it is hotter outside</p>
<b>Amber</b>  Enhanced response	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Working areas are between 22 and 28* degrees</li></ul>	<p><i>In addition to the previous alert level:</i></p> <p>The removal of blazers/suit jackets on the school site</p> <p>Move lessons from hot areas where possible</p> <p>Reminders to parents and carers regarding sunscreen, hats, students reducing exposure to the sun</p> <p>Students are regularly reminded to drink plenty of fluids</p>
<b>Red</b>  Emergency response	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Working areas are in excess of 28 degrees*</li></ul>	<p><i>In addition to the previous alert levels:</i></p> <p>Change to PE kits</p> <p>'Cool rooms' made available</p> <p>Students take regular breaks</p> <p>Stop vigorous physical activity</p>

**\*These temperatures should be viewed as guidelines, and not absolute. Staff will take a 'common sense' approach to specific conditions that apply when with students.**

# Extreme Cold Weather

The UKHSA Heat-Health alert system operates from the 1<sup>st</sup> of November to the 30<sup>th</sup> of March. An out of season health alert may still be issued if extreme cold is expected.

The UKHSA system issues four levels of alert; green, yellow, amber and red. School responses to the different levels are detailed in the following table:

UKHSA platform alert	Conditions	Measures
<b>Green</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Normal</li></ul>	None
<b>Yellow</b>  Assess a need for a response	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Snow and/or ice is forecast</li></ul>	Monitor external agency alerts and warnings  Monitor conditions on school grounds
<b>Amber</b>  Enhanced response	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Snow and/or ice is both forecast and is present at low levels</li></ul>	<i>In addition to the previous alert level:</i>  Students are encouraged to wear appropriate footwear to and from school  The school site is gritted and cleared in advance and during the school day  Students are reminded of how to act safely  Monitor conditions on surrounds roads and paths  Consider school closure if conditions are deteriorating or are forecast to deteriorate*
<b>Red</b>  Emergency response	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Snow and/or ice is present at severe levels</li><li>It is snowing</li></ul>	<i>In addition to the previous alert levels:</i>  School closure with remote learning  Safely maintain a minimal staff presence on site for the safety of any students who do not get the message in time and come to school

***\*In the event of school closure during the school day staff will remain with students until they have safely left site, contacting their parents or carers where necessary.***

## Variations to this strategy

It is recognized that there may be unforeseen circumstances that this strategy does not cover, and so we reserve the right to vary this approach by allowing staff to exercise 'common sense' with the support of senior leadership.