

**Safeguarding and Welfare Requirement: State here which EYFS Safeguarding and Welfare Requirement this document relates to.**

Insert here the wording from the Safeguarding and Welfare Requirements which this documents relates to.



## **Adverse Weather Conditions Policy**

### **Policy statement**

It is the policy of Cotswold Bunnies to make every effort to remain open whenever possible. The decision to close the nursery either before or during the day will be made by the senior management team.

### **Procedures**

The nursery will only be closed if one or more of the following conditions apply:

1. Insufficient staff are able to come in to keep the nursery running safely.
2. Conditions on site are dangerous or health and safety cannot be maintained
3. Conditions are considered to be or are anticipated to later become too hazardous for travel.

Staff are expected to attend work at the nursery, even if the nursery is closed to children, as long as it is safe for them to make their way there. Their work in the nursery will be agreed on by the senior management team. Work could include tasks such as planning, preparation, sorting and cleaning of equipment.

Where adverse weather conditions cause staff delays or difficulties in travelling to work, they should take all reasonable steps to make their way to nursery as soon as they possibly can, considering their personal safety. If staff are unable to get into work, they should telephone the nursery at the earliest possible opportunity to explain the situation and agree what to do. Staff

should continue to monitor the weather conditions during the day to see if they can attend work later, for example in the afternoon.

If the nursery does close all parents will be sent an email informing them of the closure. If local schools are closed, then it is highly likely that Cotswold Bunnies will close also. The nursery appreciates that during bad weather children may arrive later than normal; parents should endeavour to contact the nursery to let them know they are on their way if likely to be delayed.

### **Weather deterioration during the day**

In the event of the nursery having to close during the day due to unforeseen worsening weather or similar unforeseen circumstances, parents will be contacted by phone either at home or work and asked to collect their child. Such an early release will only be contemplated in extreme circumstances.

Staff who are likely to face difficulties in getting home may have to leave work early, taking into account their personal safety. This decision will be taken in collaboration with the senior management team. Minimum cover arrangements in the nursery will be provided by employees who do not have a particularly long or difficult journey home to ensure staffing ratios are maintained for the safety of the children.


### **On-site safety**

In the event of snow pathways will be cleared and salted. Parents, children, staff and visitors should be aware that pathways, even where cleared, may remain dangerous. In icy conditions staff at Cotswold Bunnies will clear and salt the following areas;

<b>Common</b>	<b>Cowshed</b>
Along the pavement which runs down the side of the house	The pavement up to the main gate and through the garden.
A path will be created across the patio at the back to the stairs	All pavements throughout the garden
Stairs and decking area	

Where necessary, essential pathways will be maintained as clear as possible throughout the day. At the Cowshed the driveway and at the Common the car park spaces opposite the house will not necessarily be cleared of ice and snow. Staff should be aware that due care must be taken at all times.

This Policy was adopted by:	Cotswold Bunnies Nurseries Ltd
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On:	18/10/2024	Date to be reviewed:	18/10/2025
Signed on behalf of the Provider:			
Name of Signatory:	Pippa Collins		
Role of Signatory (e.g, Chair, Director or Manager)	Manager		