

## Nursery & Pre-School

### **ADVERSE WEATHER/EMERGENCY CLOSURE POLICY**

We understand the needs of working parents and do not aim to close the Gan unnecessarily. We appreciate that a decision to close due to adverse weather may have a significant effect on families.

Many staff travel some distance to reach the nursery and we do not wish for parents, children or staff to be put at risk due to hazardous journeys. This makes the decision to close more complicated as conditions vary considerably in different areas. In addition, snow does not always fall at a time which fits in conveniently with decisions that need to be made in the morning. We must consider the journey to the Gan, as well as the safe return home along with the criteria listed below.

#### **How we make our decision?**

The decision to close the Gan in severe weather is not taken lightly and is based on analysis of all relevant factors, such as:

- Advice from Hertfordshire County Council
- Enough staff for safe and legal supervision
- Information on road conditions from transportation staff and from the police in order that staff and children can arrive and return home safely
- The amount of snow and ice accumulated
- Building conditions (such as whether we have adequate electricity and heat)
- Car parking conditions
- Temperature
- Weather predictions

If high snow fall is threatened during a usual business day, then in consultation with the management committee, a decision may be taken to close the nursery. This decision will take into account the safety of the children, their parents, and the staff team.

If the decision is made to stay open but not enough staff arrive for adequate supervision, reluctantly, a late decision may be taken to turn children away in the interests of their safety.

If the weather deteriorates during the course of the day, a decision may be made to call parents to collect their children.

**No refunds will be issued for closure days due to snow.**

## **Who makes the decision?**

The decision is made by the Nursery Manger and the Chair of the Gan Management Committee together with the Rabbi, using the above criteria.

## **How do we notify parents?**

In the event that a decision is made to close the Gan, a notification will be posted on our Facebook page 'Bushey Gan News' by 7.30am on the morning of closure. We will also endeavour to pass a message to parents via their various class WhatsApp groups.