

Dear Parents and Carers,

We would like to extend our thanks for your cooperation during the recent extreme weather conditions that resulted in widespread flooding in our area. The safety and well-being of our students are of paramount importance to us, and your support in this challenging situation is greatly appreciated.

Closing the school is always a last resort as it can present logistical challenges. On the day of the flooding, we received information from bus companies, indicating that the roads around the school area were becoming impassable. It was anticipated that it would be increasingly difficult to ensure the safe return of students later in the day if the adverse weather conditions persisted. Like several other schools in our area, we promptly made the decision to close the school and began making the necessary arrangements to contact parents and guardians.

Unfortunately, it has come to our attention that there was a communication error with our email and app system. We subsequently used social media platforms and instructed students to use their mobile phones for communication. It was explicitly communicated to all students that they were not to leave the school premises until contact had been made and permission granted by parents or guardians for their departure. For the majority of students, this process worked smoothly, as we checked their phones before allowing them to leave to ensure that parents were aware of the situation.

However, there were instances where some students did not adhere to these instructions and left the site without the appropriate communication. Please rest assured that student safety remains our top priority, and we would never knowingly allow a student to leave the site if we were aware that their parents were unaware of the school closure.

In response to this situation, we have thoroughly reviewed our communication processes regarding our app and email system to ensure that messages are delivered promptly and reliably in the future. We apologise for any inconvenience or distress that your family may have experienced on that day.

We kindly request that you discuss with your son and daughter the importance of not leaving the school premises in the future until contact has been established with parents, carers, or family members. This precaution is essential to ensure their safety and your peace of mind during such unforeseen circumstances.

Once again, we appreciate your understanding and support during this challenging time.

Regards

Mr C. Ellis