

Snow Days (And Other Weather Events) (Please keep somewhere safe)

The Otago Primary Principals' Association have a system for consulting and announcing the best and safest option for Snow Days. This is in consultation with the Police and Land Transport. This is announced in the cancellation service of the two local radio stations – usually just after the hour and half hour news and sports news.

Announcement 1: “All Dunedin Schools are closed.”

This means Bathgate Park School is CLOSED for the day.

- an announcement will be made on the local radio stations
- a message will be sent via txt / email (if the school has this information)
- a message / notice will be put on our website / Facebook page

Announcement 2: “All Dunedin Schools will have a late start and open at 10.00 am.”

This mean Bathgate Park School will open at 10.00 am and will have someone present from 9.30am. Please do not leave your child until you can see the school is open. All children to go to the hall upon arrival.

Keep monitoring the radio as this statement / decision can change.

- we have time to check on snow conditions in and around Dunedin
- we have time to check on staff to see if they can travel safely

Announcement 3: No announcement for Dunedin Schools but one for Bathgate Park

It may be that South Dunedin is clear but heavy snow has fallen in and around other areas of the city. Those staff living in and around these snow affected areas will coordinate with and advise the Principal – the decision may be made to close Bathgate Park School for the day.

- an announcement will be made on the local radio stations
- a message will be sent via txt / email (if we have your information)
- a message / notice will be put on our website / Facebook page

Overriding advice: Our school catchment covers a wide area – you are the best judge of the conditions at your place. The safety of travel for you and your family overrides all decisions made by the school. If you cannot get out or judge that it is unsafe to travel, please stay put and let us know (if possible) that your child will be absent.

Van: Please be aware that if a late start is called then the van will operate but may be running late. Equally, on normal days where roads are icy but no citywide decision for a late start is made, the van may be slower as at all times the Health & safety of staff and students is paramount. Some roads may not be safe to access and parents will be contacted if this is the case.