



West Park

'A caring school where we put pupils and their achievement first'

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Dear West Park Families

I hope that you are all keeping well and keeping warm. There are a few particularly cold days ahead and it is such an important time to look out for each other, with a focus on the more vulnerable members of our community.

This morning, we were faced with a very difficult decision in relation to closing the school. I arrived at West Park at 6.30am and the site staff were already beavering away to ensure that paths could be safe for staff and pupil access. This process was progressing well and I was hopeful of making the site safe enough to open. Unfortunately, the greater challenge was to get staff into school.

To secure the best teachers for our children we have cast our net far and wide and only a small number of staff live locally. Numerous staff travel in from the High Peak, Chesterfield and Leicestershire to name but a few. These staff were facing treacherous journeys and communicated with us to inform us that they couldn't make it in. This was further exacerbated by staff who could not make it in due to their child's primary school deciding to close. It would have been unsafe to open with this level of staff absence across all areas of the school. We were also keen to make a decision early enough to allow parents/carers to have time to make decisions about childcare etc.

As always, thanks for working with us to ensure that we get the best possible provision for your children.

Take care

Scott McGregor
Head