



AUTUMN COTTAGE CHILDCARE

EXTREME WEATHER POLICY

Issued: Mar 2024

Next Review: Mar 2027

ABOUT THIS POLICY

This Policy outlines the planning and controls that Autumn Cottage Childcare (AC) has in place to ensure efficient management of extreme weather conditions. This is to ensure the safety of children, parents and AC staff whilst minimising the impact on the running of AC.

SEVERE WEATHER (Wind, rain, snow, etc.)

OUTSIDE AC HOURS:

The AC Manager will decide as to whether to open by:

- 07:00hr on the day or
- 18:00 the previous evening

This decision will be a function of:

- AC being safe to accept the children (e.g. leaking roof)
- It being safe for staff, parents and children to travel to AC (snow, ice etc.)
- Correct staff to child ratios can be achieved. (Staff being able to travel in etc.)

Parents will be informed of the decision via:

- The AC Facebook page
- A message on Baby's Days
- Telephone
- Email.

DURING AC HOURS

The Manager will make a decision as to whether the setting should close, and children sent home. This decision will be a function of:

- health and safety issues.
- weather forecasts.
- safety of children travelling home.

Parents/carers will be contacted by a **Baby's Days message** for them to collect children.

Members of staff at work will assist with this to minimise time delay.

Note: Despite the session ending early, fees will still apply as staff maintain children's safety.

ONGOING CLOSURE

AC will post updated information on its Facebook page. Parents may also call AC on 0118 973 6868.



SUN

AC want to ensure children and staff to stay safe when exceptionally strong or hot sunshine is expected.

On such days, parents will be expected to arrange for their child:

- Sun cream applied prior to arrival (sun cream will be available at AC).
- Suitable clothing.
- A water bottle that the child can open by themselves.
- A sun hat which must be worn if outside.

AC will:

- Through discussion, introduce children to the safety practices for safe playing in the sun. Staff will act as positive role models.
- Not take children outside during exceptionally hot times of the day and if the garden is in full sun.
- Permit children to play in shaded area and/or use a sunshade on pushchairs.
- Encourage all children to drink as much water as possible.
- Observe all children frequently, especially children that are known to be more susceptible to sun burn (as informed to their Key Person).

Note: Staff will only be able to apply sun cream to a child with prior signed parental permission.