

26 February 2018

Dear Parents and Carers,

### **Weather warnings issued for the North East of England**

I hope this finds you well.

As you will be aware, the Met Office has issued a number of weather warnings for the entire region with regard to disruptive, drifting snowfall alongside severe wind-chill temperatures. It is always difficult to predict the unpredictable, but I wish to take a proactive rather than a reactive position given the seriousness of the weather warnings.

My first duty of care is to our students, to ensure that they can travel to and from school safely and that the Academy site is both safe and able to operate with the appropriate number of adults present. Secondly, I have a duty of care to the staff of St Michael's, a very large proportion of whom travel in excess of 15 to 25 miles to get to work. As you will appreciate, numbers of staff are critical to ensuring the viability of a secondary school day.

Naturally, I very much hope that we will be able to remain open this week.

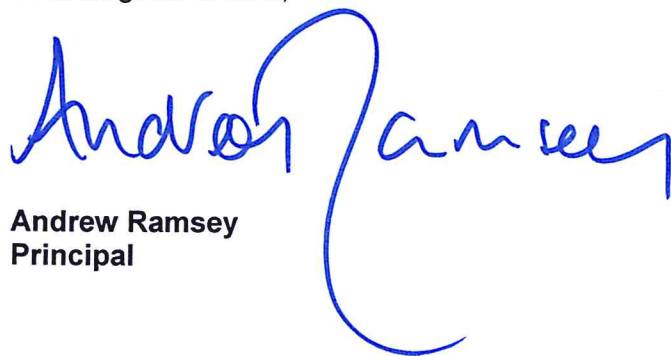
Accordingly, I would ask all parents, in the event of a heavy snowfall, to be vigilant to a **6.45am text** which will notify you if a decision has been made to close the Academy. I am particularly thankful to you for your support this week, as I understand that any potential closure poses many difficulties for families, and, of course, I wish to avoid this.

In conclusion, should there be heavy snowfall we will communicate any closure with you via a 6:45am text, and there will be updates on the home page of our website. **Please assume that the Academy is open if you do not receive a text.**

The most important aspect of this week is that students and staff are kept safe.

Thank you once again.

With all good wishes,



**Andrew Ramsey**  
Principal



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