

Risk Assessment



Title: Snow, Ice and Winter Weather

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General Information

Assessors Name: Gary Musson

Assessment Date: 19/11/2024

Next Review Date:

Affected Parties:

» Visitors » Employees » Public

» Contractors » Pupils

Risk Matrix

5. Extreme	5 (LOW)	10 (MED)	15 (MED)	20 (HIGH)	25 (HIGH)
4. Major	4 (LOW)	8 (MED)	12 (MED)	16 (MED)	20 (HIGH)
3. Minor	3 (LOW)	6 (MED)	9 (MED)	12 (MED)	15 (MED)
2. Limited	2 (LOW)	4 (LOW)	6 (MED)	8 (MED)	10 (MED)
1. Trivial	1 (LOW)	2 (LOW)	3 (LOW)	4 (LOW)	5 (LOW)
	1. Unlikely	2. Rarely	3. Occasional	4. Frequent	5. Inevitable

RATING

HIGH RISK

Intolerable - Do not start work

MED RISK

Tolerable - Reduce ALARP. Review annually/change.

LOW RISK

Tolerable - Monitor. Review annually/change.

Notes

This risk assessment looks at the principal potential hazards faced during spells of cold weather, particularly during winter periods, and can support your local plan. Whilst the risk assessment has a focus on activities on/in school property, it does also give consideration to travelling to work.

● #1. Presence of snow/ice underfoot on access to or egress from building

Pre Control Scoring (Likelihood x Severity = Risk)

L	S	R
3	4	12

Consequence

Slips and falls leading to Sprains, Strains, Broken bones.

Control Measures

- » Major pathways to be gritted/cleared to facilitate safe access/egress.
- » Access to the school to be under constant staff supervision. Extra supervision to be allocated to support pupils entering and leaving site.
- » All child access to outside areas to be supervised.
- » Access to areas where snow/ice does not clear naturally to be temporarily prohibited.
- » Assessment of conditions to be undertaken by the site team in conjunction with forecast and/or conditions underfoot in the morning.
- » Parents/staff to be informed of conditions at site and urged to take all due precautions for their safety.
- » Wear appropriate clothing and footwear

Consequence

Snowdrifts/ice block normal function of emergency exits | Severe injury | Death | Reputational damage

Control Measures

- » Snowdrifts/ice to be cleared (and kept clear) from all emergency exits.

Final Risk Scoring (Likelihood x Severity = Risk)

L	S	R
1	4	4

● #2. Forecast indicates likelihood of snow or ice

Pre Control Scoring (Likeliness x Severity = Risk)

L	S	R
3	4	12

Consequence

Slips and falls leading to Sprains, Strains, Broken bones. Body temperature dropping to harmful levels.

Control Measures

- » Major pathways (as above) and any areas prone to shade/slow to thaw to be pre-gritted.
- » Assessment of conditions to be undertaken by the site team in conjunction with forecast and/or conditions underfoot in the morning.
- » If a site has multiple access points, consider whether some are safer to use than others in cold/icy or snowy weather.
- » Be prepared for pupils to be collected late.
- » Make children aware of the risks of cold and ice.
- » Site teams should ensure gutters and drains are clear (where safe to access), or seek the assistance of an appropriate contractor.

Final Risk Scoring (Likeliness x Severity = Risk)

L	S	R
1	4	4

● #3. Gritting or pre-gritting of affected areas

Pre Control Scoring (Likelihood x Severity = Risk)

L	S	R
3	4	12

Consequence

Slips and falls leading to Sprains, Strains, Broken bones.

Control Measures

- » Task only to be undertaken with knowledge of another member of staff who will periodically check on safety of staff member gritting
- » Salt from closest available bin to be used (ensure stocks are topped up ready for future use).
- » Salt to be decanted into bucket and gloves to be worn
- » Task to be stopped if conditions worsen
- » Staff member(s) to ensure they are wearing suitable clothing/footwear
- » Ensure site teams have equipment and materials ready.

Final Risk Scoring (Likelihood x Severity = Risk)

L	S	R
1	4	4

● #4. Temperatures falling below acceptable limits

Pre Control Scoring (Likelihood x Severity = Risk)

L	S	R
2	4	8

Consequence

Frostbite, Hypothermia.

Control Measures

- » Heating system maintained regularly to ensure adequate function and an acceptable temperature can be maintained.
- » Persons required to be outside to ensure they are wearing suitable winter clothing.
- » Site teams to be vigilant for burst pipes.
- » Site teams to check boilers, radiators and other heat emitters are working.

Final Risk Scoring (Likelihood x Severity = Risk)

L	S	R
1	4	4

● #5. Children accessing playground with snow/ice underfoot

Pre Control Scoring (Likelihood x Severity = Risk)

L	S	R
2	4	8

Consequence

Slips and falls leading to Sprains, Strains, Broken bones.

Control Measures

- » Children not to be allowed to access playground unsupervised. Increase supervision of any activities taking place outdoors (where those activities are safe to continue).
- » Any decision on children having access to outside areas for learning/non-essential purposes (ie. access to buildings only accessible via outside routes) to be made in consultation with a member of staff.
- » Access to outside areas to be re-assessed as/if weather conditions change.
- » Children to be adequately clothed before accessing outdoor areas, their condition monitored and returned inside if they become too cold/wet.
- » Access to areas where snow/ice does not clear naturally to be prohibited.

Final Risk Scoring (Likelihood x Severity = Risk)

L	S	R
1	4	4

● #6. Travelling to work by car.

Pre Control Scoring (Likelihood x Severity = Risk)

L	S	R
3	4	12

Consequence

Road traffic incident caused by snow/ice and leading to serious injury.

Control Measures

- » Allow extra time to travel
- » Wear appropriate clothing and footwear
- » Know where to get local travel advice
- » Take winter motoring advice from organisations such as the AA, RAC or Green Flag (all should have suitable guidance on their web-sites).

Final Risk Scoring (Likelihood x Severity = Risk)

L	S	R
2	4	8

● #7. Travelling to work by foot

Pre Control Scoring (Likeliness x Severity = Risk)

L	S	R
3	4	12

Consequence

Fall caused by snow/ice leading to serious injury

Control Measures

- » Allow extra time to travel
- » Wear appropriate (warm) clothing and footwear
- » Know where to get local travel advice. If you are to use public transport are there any disruptions to service?

Final Risk Scoring (Likeliness x Severity = Risk)

L	S	R
2	4	8

Signature:

