



# Ballygawley Early Years Playgroup

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## Adverse Conditions/Winter Policy

### Principle

Ballygawley Early Years Playgroup considers that during severe weather conditions, eg snow or if there is a power/heating problem, the health and safety of children, parents/carers, staff and volunteers will be our main priority.

### Policy

The setting has implemented this policy to ensure Committee members and staff have the appropriate authority to exercise powers and carry out certain actions for which they are personally accountable. Ballygawley Early Years Playgroup wants to ensure that health and safety is of paramount importance at all times and does not want to endanger children, parents/carers, staff, volunteers or any persons.

The management team maintains the policy of remaining open during bad weather, unless the severity of conditions within the locality makes opening the setting too dangerous.

### Procedures

To ensure this policy is implemented appropriately, the staff will:

- Consult with the Leader and/or Committee Chairperson prior to any decision being made about closing the setting due to adverse weather conditions or health and safety issues.
- Notification will be given to parents/carers as soon as the decision has been agreed to aid minimal disruption.
- If the Leader in charge is unable to open due to the conditions and possible staff shortages, the management team must be notified and they will assist with contacting families to minimise disruption.
- If applicable, consult with local primary schools.

This policy was adapted at a meeting of our playgroup held on the 1st September 2025.

### Monitoring



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This policy will be reviewed annually by the management team to ensure it remains fit for purpose.

This policy was reviewed by the Ballygawley Early Years Management Committee on:

Date: 01/09/2025

Signed: .....  
(on behalf of the Management Committee)

Name and Position: Iona Devine, Chairperson

Reviewed on:

Date: ..... Signed: ..... Position: .....

Date: ..... Signed: ..... Position: .....

Date: ..... Signed: ..... Position: .....

This policy links with the following policies:

- Health and Safety policy
- Emergency Plan policy