



DISRUPTION OF SCHOOL OPERATIONS DUE TO STORMS



Request on reactions of parents and guardians. The Capital District Fire and Rescue Service prepared the request in collaboration with the education authorities in the Greater Reykjavík Area.

It is important that parents themselves keep track of the weather and weather forecasts and behave in accordance with the conditions at any time. Weather can develop in unforeseen ways: bad weather can suddenly set in and conditions in the various neighbourhoods of the city can be very different. Parents themselves should assess whether they need to accompany their child to school even though no announcement has been made by the authorities. If parents assess that it is not safe for their children to go to school, they should report this to the school and the school will regard such cases as normal absence. The same is valid if parents land in difficulties on their way to school and have to abandon the journey.

TWO LEVELS OF WARNING

When a weather forecast indicates that stormy weather is on its way to the capital area, this is followed very closely and warnings given to the public, if necessary.

There are two levels of warning due to storms:

- **Warning level 1:** Disruption will happen to school operations because of difficulties of staff and pupils in getting to school – parents accompany children to school.
- **Warning level 2:** School closed.

This primarily concerns younger children but it is completely the parents' responsibility and dependent on their evaluation. Where "parents" is used, this means "parents and other guardians".

ANNOUNCEMENTS OF WARNING LEVELS

As much effort as possible is put into sending announcements in good time to the RÚV and Bygjan newsrooms and the main Net newsrooms (mbl.is and visir.is).

The school telephone systems are usually not capable of coping with a lot of pressure and so it is pointed out to parents that they should follow announcements and gather information in the media and on the school's homepage. Parents should always look for confirmed announcements from the authorities on warning levels and avoid being governed by pupils' assessments of the conditions.



● WARNING LEVEL 1

Disruption of school operations – parents accompany children to school

There can be disruption of school operations due to weather if staff have difficulty getting to school. In these conditions schools are nonetheless open and receive pupils who can stay there while planned school lessons are supposed to happen. It is very important that parents accompany children to school and on no account leave them until they are in the trusty hands of staff.

If stormy weather gushes over at the end of the school day, an assessment is made as to whether it is safe to send the children home or whether there is reason for parents to collect their children. Announcements are then given out about this, while schools also try and contact parents.

● WARNING LEVEL 2

School closed

If the circumstances are such that it is unavoidable for school operations to be cancelled for a while due to weather, the media receive an announcement about it. Parents must then keep their children at home until another announcement is made.