



INCLEMENT WEATHER POLICY

How are inclement weather school delays or closures determined?

BISW follows the guidance of District of Columbia Public Schools (DCPS) authorities concerning inclement weather. Our school uses DCPS as its guideline but is aware that many members of its community live outside of DC and may be faced with different weather conditions.

The DCPS decision to delay or close school is a careful decision informed by factors including temperature, wind chill, levels of snow and ice, road conditions, the availability of public transit, and how weather forecasts indicate these conditions might develop throughout the day. Ultimately, the DC mayor reviews the latest information and decides if schools are open, delayed, or closed. DCPS typically make a decision in the early morning of the delay or closure or the night before.

Where can I find information about delays and closures?

DCPS shares decisions on its [website](#), [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#). BISW shares notifications via email, normally before 7:00 AM, for school delays or full closures. Local radio and television stations also provide helpful information.

How can BISW students learn during a prolonged closure?

From the third day of a closure, we will implement the following to support the students in their learning. There is no online provision for the first two days of any closure:

Primary and Early Years

Parents and guardians of Primary students in Years 1 to 6 will receive a link to a Teams call by 8:30 AM. The students should log into this Teams meeting at 9:00 AM, and the teacher will review the tasks to complete. Then, the students should complete the tasks on their own schedules that day.

Secondary

Secondary students should adhere to their regular timetables and log into classes via Teams.

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What happens during delays?

The following reflects standard delays. Please refer to our notifications for specific details.

1-Hour Delay

- Students should arrive from 9:00 AM, not 8:00 AM.
- Classes should begin at 9:30 AM, not 8:30 AM.
- The day ends at the regular time.

2-Hour Delay

- Students should arrive from 10:00 AM, not 8:00 AM.
- Classes should begin at 10:30 AM, not 8:30 AM.
- The day ends at the regular time.

Buses

When there is a school delay due to inclement weather, buses should operate on the same 1-hour or 2-hour delay unless otherwise stated in our notifications.

Safety

BISW parents and guardians are in the best position to determine their families' ability to travel to school safely through inclement weather. Please follow the standard procedures to inform us if your child will be late or absent.

Before School

BISW will cancel programs before school and notify the school community. A reduced staff presence will be available to care for students who arrive early. We will offer alternate school environments, such as mixed classes, until additional staff arrive.

After School

The day ends at the regular time unless otherwise stated in our notifications. When inclement weather causes a school delay, BISW may cancel after-school programs and notify the school community.

What if inclement weather develops during the school day?

We open intending to remain open for the whole school day. We have early dismissals only in extreme situations. The decision to cancel an extended day, after-school program, or athletic event comes from the School Principal, and then we inform the school community.

In the event of severe weather, we may move to an alternate school environment, such as mixed classes, to ensure the safety of our staff and students. We will inform families if it is necessary to retrieve students early. Our campus will remain open, and as students depart, a reduced staff presence will care for the remaining students until everyone has left the premises.