



# Stanbury Village School

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Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> January 2026

## Important Weather Update – Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> and Friday 9<sup>th</sup> January 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

Firstly, I would like to thank you for your continued patience and understanding throughout this week in relation to the delayed openings caused by snow, black ice, and icy conditions. We appreciate how disruptive these changes can be for families, and we are grateful for the support and patience you have shown.

I would like to reassure you that decisions regarding whether to open school late or to close entirely are never taken lightly. As Headteacher, I have a duty of care to all our pupils and staff. While many of our families live relatively close to school, the majority of our teaching staff travel from a considerable distance, with most facing a journey of at least 30 minutes by car. In order to open safely, we must ensure that we have appropriate staffing and supervision levels in place, and in some year groups we are legally required to meet statutory adult-to-child ratios. If we are unable to meet these requirements safely, we cannot open the school.

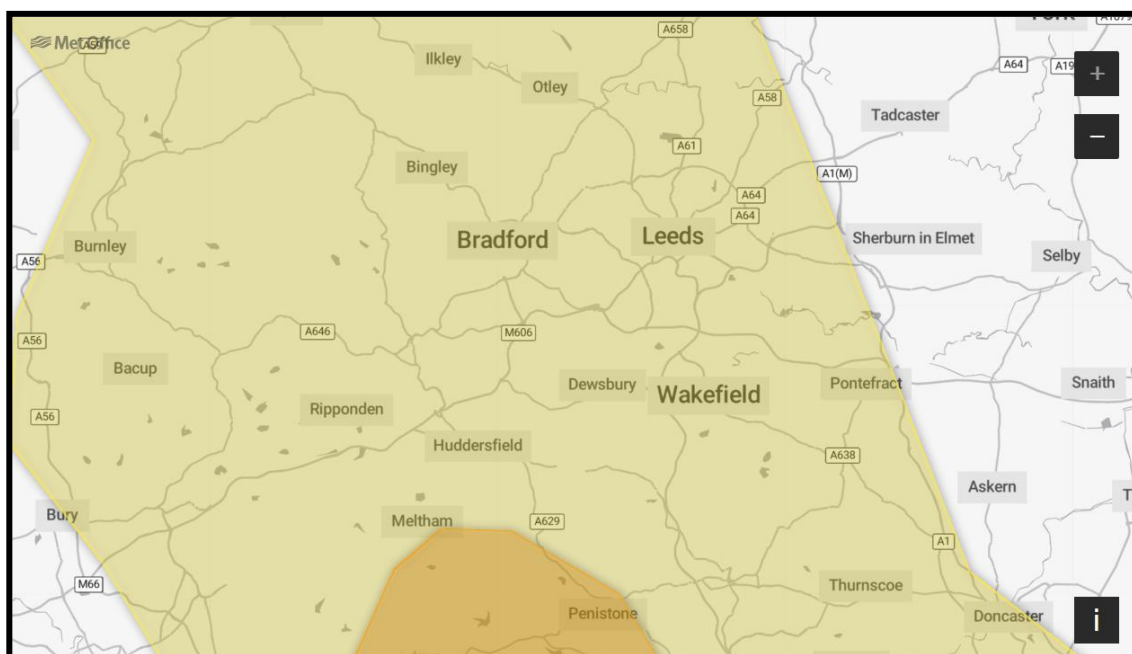
Due to the weather forecast predicting snowfall to begin between 3:00pm and 5:00pm today, we have made the decision that **Out of School Club will run until 5:00pm only**. This decision has been taken to help ensure that all children, families, and staff are able to travel home safely before the heaviest periods of snow arrive. We appreciate your understanding and cooperation.

Looking ahead to tomorrow, the Met Office has issued a Yellow/Amber Weather Warning for snow. The warning advises that rain associated with Storm Goretti will spread northeastwards on Thursday afternoon and evening, turning to snow overnight and into Friday. Snow is expected to accumulate initially on higher ground before spreading to lower levels, with accumulations of 5–10 cm likely in many areas and potentially 15–25 cm, or more, on higher ground specifically hills. Our school is situated approximately 306 metres above sea level, which means we are particularly likely to experience significant snowfall from Thursday evening into Friday morning.

1500	1600	1700	1800
1°	1°	0°	0°
45%	57%	67%	75%
6	8	10	11



Additionally, when reviewing the Met Office forecasts, our area is very close to an Amber Warning, which indicates a higher level of severity. As we have seen earlier this week, forecasts have continued to change and, in many cases, have worsened as the time has approached.



#### Yellow warning of snow

Yellow - Possible

**Starts:** 17:00 (GMT) Thu 8 Jan **Ends:** 12:00 (GMT) Fri 9 Jan

Storm Goretti is likely to bring heavy snow leading to disruption and difficult travelling conditions later Thursday and into Friday

- Possible travel delays on roads stranding some vehicles and passengers
- Possible delays or cancellations to rail and air travel
- Some rural communities could become cut off
- Power cuts may occur and other services, such as mobile phone coverage, may be affected

**Issued:** 11:14 (GMT) Tue 6 Jan



#### Amber warning of snow

Amber - Likely

**Starts:** 20:00 (GMT) Thu 8 Jan **Ends:** 09:00 (GMT) Fri 9 Jan

Heavy snow, associated with Storm Goretti, is likely to lead to disruption and dangerous travelling conditions Thursday night into Friday

- Travel delays on roads are likely, stranding some vehicles and passengers
- Some delays and cancellations to rail and air travel are likely
- There is a good chance that some rural communities could become cut off
- Power cuts are likely and other services, such as mobile phone coverage, may be affected

**Issued:** 11:55 (GMT) Wed 7 Jan

Based on the current forecast, I would like to advise families that there is a possibility that school will be unable to open on Friday if conditions develop as predicted. We will, of course, continue to monitor the situation closely and will make a final decision on Friday morning once conditions are clear. However, I felt it was only fair to give families advance notice to enable you to make any necessary childcare arrangements, as I fully recognise that this will be an inconvenience.



At this stage, we can also confirm that there will be no breakfast club provision on Friday morning, as we will still be assessing whether it is safe to open the school site and ensure appropriate staffing levels.

Thank you once again for your understanding and cooperation. Further updates will be shared as soon as possible.

Kind regards,

Mr A Robinson

Headteacher

