



GRITTING POLICY

SANDON PRIMARY ACADEMY

Mrs R Beckett & Mrs L Kiddle (Co-Principals)

Review date: September 2026

Aims:

To reduce the risk of slips or accidents as a result of ice, frost or snow we have put the following guidelines in place:

- Risk assessment – a means to manage the risk through the application of grit or salt
- Record of gritting applications

Weather Monitoring

Weather conditions will be monitored using trusted sources such as:

- Met Office: www.metoffice.gov.uk
- BBC Weather: www.bbc.co.uk/weather
- Highways Agency: www.highways.gov.uk

Gritting will be initiated when freezing temperatures are forecast or observed.

Roles & Responsibilities

Site Manager: Responsible for monitoring weather forecasts, applying grit, and maintaining the gritting log.

SLT/Health & Safety Lead: Oversees policy implementation and reviews.

Staff: Report unsafe conditions and follow designated safe routes.

Gritting Method

Rock salt will be used to de-ice surfaces due to its effectiveness and affordability. Gritting will be carried out:

- In the evening before frost settles
- Early morning before staff, pupils, and parents arrive
- Throughout the day as needed based on weather conditions

Priority Routes

Priority areas for gritting include:

- Main entrances and receptions
- Staff car parks
- Pupil pathways and playground access
- Emergency exits

Training & PPE

Staff involved in gritting are trained in manual handling. Required PPE includes:

- Gloves
- High-visibility jackets
- Non-slip footwear

Communication

Staff and parents will be informed of icy conditions and route changes via Class Dojo or email. During long periods of cold weather, staff will be updated at staff meetings.

Contingency

If grit stock is low or staff are unavailable:

- Backup staff will be assigned
- Local Authority support may be requested
- Untreated areas will be clearly marked and access restricted

Risk Assessment

This policy aligns with the Gritting Risk Assessment and supports the school's broader Health & Safety framework.

Gritting Log Example

All gritting actions will be documented; confirming areas treated, dates (and times if required) and the cause i.e. ice, snow or a combination of the two. By doing this it will allow for a level of accountability in the event of a complaint or incident.

Date	Time	Area Treated	Weather Condition	Initials
05.12.2025	06:30	Main entrances, pathways	Frost	BP

Gritting Routes



Key routes for priority areas are highlighted in yellow and gritted by Site Staff wearing appropriate PPE – in conjunction with the snow / ice risk assessment.

If the conditions are such that it is deemed unsafe for our children to use the playground, especially at lunchtime, the arrangements will be the same as a wet playtime.

We reserve the right to adjust/amend all routes treated if resources are depleted or not available.