

Priestley Primary School

Gritting Policy



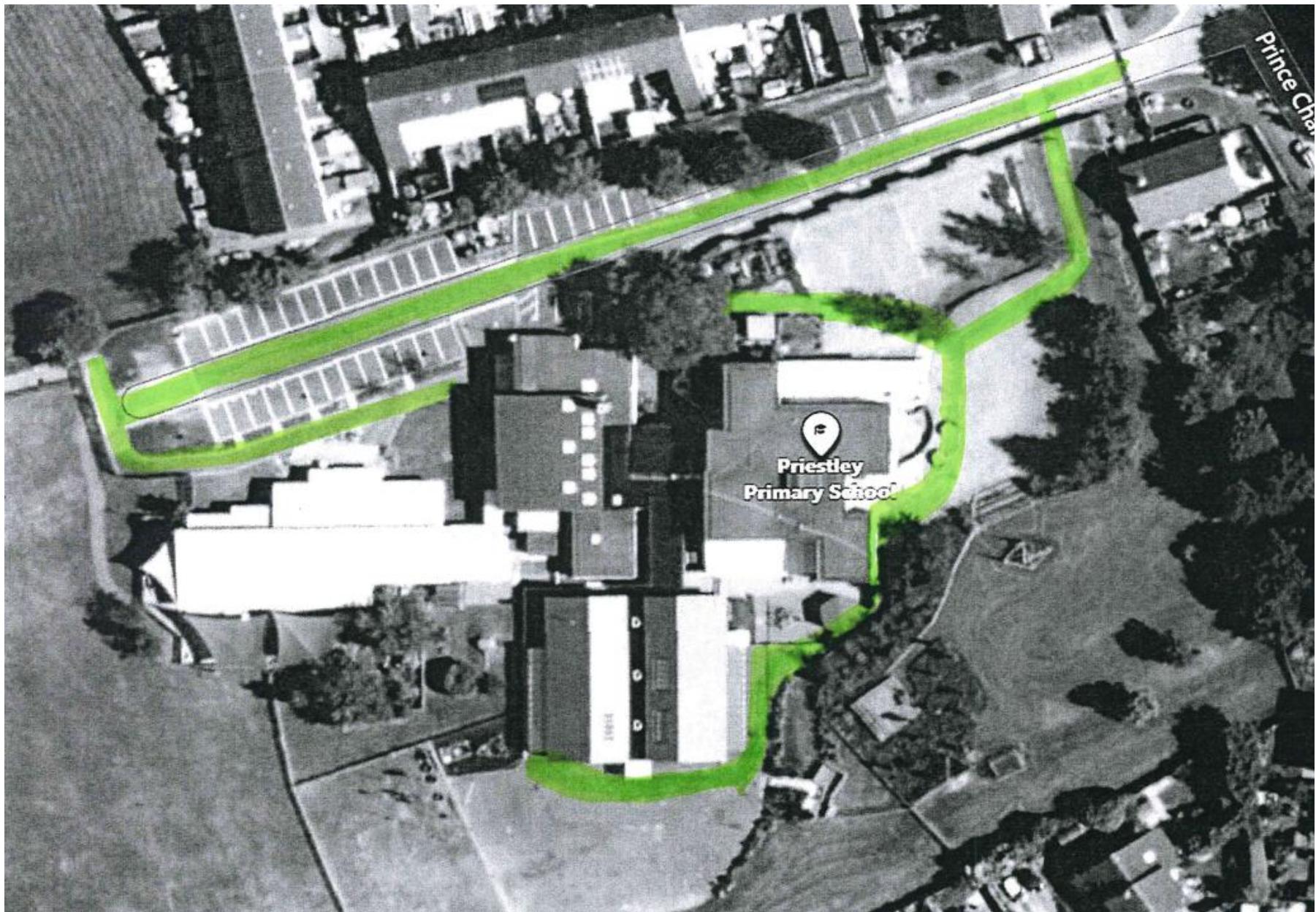
Introduction It is essential that Priestley Primary School exercises its full duty of care and ensures safe access to and from the school entrance and whilst moving around school during the day, for all staff, pupils, parents and visitors.

It is also essential that assessments are made to establish the risk in plenty of time – at the beginning of each day, during the day and at the end of the school day to ascertain the need to implement the gritting policy or not.

Procedures

- In the event of icy weather conditions it is not practical to grit the entire site, but as part of the gritting policy, safe routes have been identified and communicated to staff, pupils and parents. The plan at Appendix 1 highlights the pathways that will be gritted. The car park will not be gritted.
- In the event of snow pathways will be cleared to relevant areas.
- The caretaker arrives at 6:30 am each day and will conduct a site survey to determine if identified routes need gritting or not. A warning notice will be erected to warn visitors and children that there is ice and to stay on the designated gritted paths. There will be two warning notices placed. One at top of drive by school gates and one at gates coming in from the recreation ground. See Appendix 2.
- It is common practice for the pedestrian access gate to remain locked in the mornings so that entry into school can be controlled, thereby minimising the risk to children, parents and visitors. Routes into school will be gritted by 7:30 am ready for when Breakfast Club starts.
- At break times a decision as to whether children are to be allowed outside will be made by the teacher on duty in conjunction with a member of the Leadership Team.
- It may be possible for paths to have become unsafe during the day when there is no caretaking cover available to grit paths. It is therefore important that extreme care is taken when coming onto the school premises later in the day.
- In extreme cases the Headteacher may make the decision that there is no option but to close the school if there is risk to health and safety. If this is done, the Chair of Governors and the Local Authority and local radio stations will be informed. Parents will be informed by text message.
- Good communication is important. Parents receive a copy of specific information during the autumn and winter months via letters, newsletters, website and text messaging service. Children have procedures explained to them in class and in assembly time. It is expected that parents adhere to these instructions and pass all relevant information to friends and relatives who may also bring and collect children.
- During these conditions everyone will have difficulty getting to their place of work and dropping off children. Parents should be responsible and plan more time for their journey. Parent should not expect to park close to the school and especially not at these times.
- Children should have suitable footwear and warm clothing, including spare clothes. Outdoor play will occur, whenever possible, but will be risk assessed to ensure it is safe for the children to play outside.
- The school is not responsible for gritting the entrances and pathways associated with Apple Tree Nursery or Rise Trust Children's Centre or the paths outside of the school grounds.
- Please note that the speed bumps along the driveway are very slippery during icy/snow/wet conditions, so please do not walk on these.

Appendix 1 - Gritting Plan – Priestley Primary School



Appendix 2 - Warning Signs

Signs to be placed as follows:

**Main school entrance by gates at top of school drive.
Entrance leading from Recreation Ground.**

