



## Why would centres close?

Closures may be due to snow storms, icy road conditions, power outages or frigid temperatures.

## How is the decision to close centres made?

In the event of inclement weather, Owl Child Care will close centres when the Waterloo Region District School Board (WRDSB) and the Waterloo Catholic Region School Board (WCRSB) have decided to close schools. School boards try to make closure decisions by 6:00 a.m, and therefore, Owl closures will be communicated immediately after hearing of school board decisions.

## POSSIBLE SITUATIONS

**1. If buses are cancelled but schools remain open,  
Owl centres will be open.**

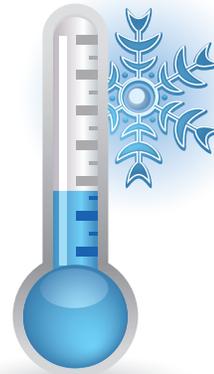
**2. If school boards close schools,  
Owl centres will be closed.**

In the event of an individual school closure, due to lack of hydro, only the affected Owl centre will close.

**3. If school closures happen during the day,  
Owl centres will be closed.**

Closures that happen during the day may be a result of change in weather or road conditions. Owl will make every effort to contact members by phone and email. Individual school closures, due to a power failure, will close only the affected Owl centre.

## How do frigid temperatures affect closures?



If the temperature reaches  $-35^{\circ}\text{C}$  with the wind-chill in the early morning, schools and Owl centres may or may not be closed. We closely monitor weather conditions and resulting school board decisions that affect Owl.

When schools close, due to frigid temperatures, it is Owl's policy to also close centres.

In extreme cold there is an increased risk of evacuation and Owl does not have access to regular emergency shelters - mainly other schools.

During frigid temperatures, frostbite can happen within minutes of skin being exposed. Younger ages are even more susceptible to extreme cold. If centres are open, please ensure children are dressed appropriately.

## Will credits be issued for unexpected centre closures?

Owl does not issue credits for unexpected centre closures. Should you have questions regarding this policy, please email [info@owchildcare.org](mailto:info@owchildcare.org).

## How is Owl closure information communicated?

- On our website: [www.owchildcare.org](http://www.owchildcare.org)
- Owl will send an email to all Owl members.
- On our Facebook page: [www.facebook.com/owchildcare.org](http://www.facebook.com/owchildcare.org)
- Radio announcements and Storm Centre postings: 570 News (AM 570), Kool FM (105.3), Dave FM (107.5) and CHYM FM (96.7)