




Developing Christlike Character  
and Academic Excellence


# School Cancellations & Delays

## contact us

 1635 Linmar Drive NE, Cedar Rapids, IA 52402

 P: 319.362.9512 | F: 319.362.5610

 [office@incaonline.org](mailto:office@incaonline.org)

 [www.incaonline.org](http://www.incaonline.org)

November 2024



## **Start, Delay or Cancel? How We Decide**

Weather conditions can be unpredictable any time of year. How the school handles emergency closings and delays, however, should be very predictable. Isaac Newton Christian Academy has specific procedures we follow in making these decisions. We want you to be aware of these guidelines so you can make plans for your family.

As early as possible, weather and road condition information is gathered from various sources and through inspection by school personnel.

- The safety of students and staff is the overriding deciding factor.
- We try to be sensitive to the needs of working parents and try to minimize the time students may be home without supervision.
- Since school is a safe, supervised setting for children, we try to avoid early dismissals.

### **Do We Follow Cedar Rapids Community Schools?**

- No, not necessarily. We do consider the actions of the Cedar Rapids Community Schools when making decisions about delays or cancellations. However, you should look for Isaac Newton Christian Academy cancellations separately from Cedar Rapids Community Schools cancellations on sites, channels and stations. If we cancel or delay school, we will be listed separately. We

are also NOT included when newscasters mention Catholic Schools or Cedar Rapids parochial schools. Isaac Newton Christian Academy has its own identification numbers with local weather reporting agencies.

- The main reason that we do not follow the same cancellation schedule as Cedar Rapids Community Schools and Xavier Catholic Schools is because of transportation. Sometimes these schools cancel or delay school to avoid requiring students to stand at a bus stop in frigid temperatures. Sometimes schools cancel school because of the inability of buses to navigate rural roads. These factors are not as much of a concern for our students as we do not provide busing for our students.

## **When We Delay Start Times**

- When information suggests conditions will improve, the start of school may be delayed by two hours. When this happens, school will begin at 10:15 a.m.
- When the start of school is delayed, no before school care services will be provided.
- Lunch will be served on days with a delayed start.
- Pre-K will be canceled for the day.

## **When We Cancel School**

- When school is canceled, all elementary and junior high after-school activities will be canceled as well.
- The Athletic Directors from Isaac Newton/Vernon Middle School & Marion High School will inform high school students of sport-related cancellations.

## When We Dismiss Early

- We are reluctant to dismiss students early. If at all possible, we will keep students at school with supervision until the regular dismissal time.
- If very dangerous weather (ice, blizzard, sub-zero temperatures, extreme heat) develops or unique circumstances (power outage) threatens student safety, we will dismiss early.
- Early dismissal decisions are generally made by 10:00 a.m.
- Parents will be notified by Parent Alert of an unplanned early dismissal. Faculty and staff will notify parents using information on file in FACTS SIS.
- Dismissal times may vary depending on conditions.
- Lunch will typically be served on early dismissal days.
- After-school care will not be available on early dismissal days.

## Alternate Plans

- Parents should plan ahead for alternative child care arrangements if school is closed.
- Students will only be allowed to leave with adults whom their parents or guardians have previously designated.

## What Can You Do to Assure Your Child's Comfort and Safety?

It is always your decision whether you want your child to attend school on a day when there is inclement weather. We recommend using your best judgment if you do not think it is safe to transport your child to school.

# **How Families Are Informed of Delays/Cancellations/Early Dismissals**

## **Media**

- Television
  - KGAN-TV Channel 2
  - KWWL-TV Channel 7
  - KCRG-TV Channel 9
- Radio
  - WMT-AM 600
  - KNWS-FM 101.9

## **Website Announcement**

- School Website

## **Email**

- Notices will be sent out through FACTS SIS

## **Text Message**

- The school uses a text alert system called Parent Alert to notify parents of school cancellations or delays. Through this system, the school has the ability to send texts and text-to-speech calls. In order to receive these texts, text the keyword "START" to 22383 from your mobile device. Any text alerts from our school will begin with "IscNwtnCh" and the calls will show (319)362-9512, the school's main number.
- For those signed up with the KCRG News App, a notification is sent to your smartphone. To sign up, download the app. Tap on the gear icon. In the "Closings" section, search for Isaac Newton Christian Academy.

*Isaac Newton Christian Academy has a complete Crisis Management Plan that outlines procedures for all types of emergencies and incidents that might occur.*