

Headteacher:
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Friday 15th July 2022

Extreme weather forecast for next week

Dear Parents and Carers,

We are due to have temperatures of at least 35 degrees next week, with some weather reports estimating 40 degrees.

The advice from the Department for Education, is that we should close windows to keep the heat out, this is contradictory to the advice that good ventilation is needed to reduce the spread of Covid.

Our site is made up of a large glass panes which act as a greenhouse effect in the height of summer, which makes internal temperatures more difficult to control. We have a large number of fans, but the advice from the government is that fans should not be used during excessive temperatures, as this worsens dehydration and does not prevent heat-related illness. We only have three classrooms which have air conditioning.

As a result of our risk assessments and temperature logs, and having consulted the Met Office data, we have concluded that we can open all windows early on Monday and Tuesday to reduce “stored heat” and bring temperatures down for the first part of the morning.

We understand that the majority of students need routine, and benefit from our support, and are therefore offering the following options so that you can make the best decision for your child and family circumstances;

- Stay at home, supported by learning activities that will be provided
- Students to come in on their taxi as normal and be collected at 11.30am (taxis will not be collecting at this time) supported by learning activities for the afternoon
- Students to come in and go home on their taxi as normal having done a full day at school

If your child is in school, please remind them to apply sun cream and bring in a water bottle and a hat. We will rotate students so that they are able to have some time in an air conditioned room, the length of time will be dependent on how many students are in school. Any social time will either be indoors or in shaded areas outside if students have a hat and have applied sun cream.

Please complete the below Google Form by 8am Monday morning so we are able to put together the rota for rooms. If your child is not coming in to school on Monday morning, please can you let your taxi operator know so they do not attempt to collect.



Please speak to your child about how to keep safe in the heat to support them to understand the changes we are having to make next week.

Apologies for the short notice, it was hoped that additional fans would help, but this has not been the case. The health and safety of our students and staff comes first in such decisions.

Google Form: <https://forms.gle/3skNLMwyzjZSKjct6>

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'D Pearce', followed by a long horizontal line extending to the right.

David Pearce
Headteacher