

CHR/BAP
15th July 2022



Dear Parent/Carer,

Following the recent issuing of a red extreme heat warning by the Met Office for early next week, I would like to address a few concerns that have been received over the last couple of days.

I want to reassure you that, as always, the health and safety of our staff and students is of the utmost importance:

- All windows and classroom doors in areas of the school without air conditioning will be opened from 6.00am to ensure that our building is fully ventilated. Additionally, many rooms in school have air conditioning or air handling units which effectively control temperatures in those areas.
- Students are advised to bring a full water bottle each day, which they will be able to refill during break and lunchtime at one of the multiple water fountains available around the school.
- During break and lunchtime, there will also be additional designated indoor spaces for those students who do not want to be exposed to the sun outside. Students who do go outside can bring a suitable sun hat and we recommend they also bring sunscreen. However, hats should not be worn inside the building.
- Any PE lessons that take place outside will ensure that shaded areas are provided and will include activities involving limited physical exertion; all students will be offered sunscreen. If the heat becomes excessive, lessons will be moved into an indoor ventilated space.

On Monday 18th and Tuesday 19th July only, we are giving students the choice of either:

- wearing normal school uniform with no tie and their top button open (our white shirts, being light in both fabric and colour, confirm to the DfE guidance); or**
- wearing PE kit.**

Any students wearing clothing that is not mentioned above will be given a one-hour detention after school on Monday.

Whilst there is no expectation for students to wear blazers in classrooms, around the building, or outside during the heatwave, in order that they are fully equipped to learn, they should bring their blazer, which we suggest is placed in their bag. However, we have found that, over the past week, the vast majority of students have continued to wear blazers inside due to the cool temperatures within the school building. As is our normal protocol, where a student does raise a concern during the day, it will be acted upon in an appropriate manner. I reiterate that, as was the case during the pandemic, safety is our prime concern and please be assured that we will continue to monitor the situation and will let you know if anything changes.

Similarly, with regard to our planned Sports Day on Tuesday 19th July, a decision will be made at the end of the day on Monday as, despite the warning, the forecast can be ever-changing; we will notify you of any contingency arrangements by email or text on Monday evening. Thank you in advance of your co-operation.

Yours faithfully,

Mrs C Handy-Rivett
Headteacher

Headteacher: **Mrs C Handy-Rivett, BA (Hons), MA, NPQH**

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