



## **Amber Weather Warning for Extreme Heat**

Dear Parents,

As you will know, there is an amber weather warning for extreme heat covering Tewkesbury on Monday 18<sup>th</sup> and Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> July. There is a further red warning for other not-too-distant locations. Temperatures are predicted to reach 38°/39°C in the afternoons with a 'feels like' temperature in excess of 40°C.

The situation is a tricky one. We know that some parents will be very worried and would prefer to keep their children at home. We also know that lots of parents have work commitments and that childcare is a real issue if the school closes. Circumstances like this are a headache that nobody needs. It is impossible to please everyone, whilst doing our utmost to keep the whole school community safe. We also know that early information is important to allow time for planning.

**At this point, there is no plan to close the school.** There will however be some adaptations to keep everyone as safe as we can.

### **What we will do:**

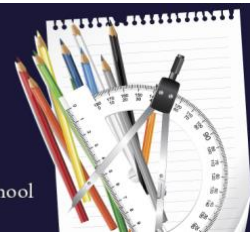
- Children do not need to wear uniform this week. They should wear cool, light and loose clothing.
- There will be no PE for Adventurers or Navigators on Monday. We will minimise physical activity and plan calm activities for the afternoons.
- We will make sure doors and windows are open before the children arrive and use the blackout blinds where they are fitted to help cool rooms.
- We will minimise the use of the interactive screens and computers which generate heat.
- Children will have access to the classrooms during play and lunch time.
- Outside activities will be carried out in shaded areas, and the hottest parts of the day will be avoided.
- Children will be encouraged to drink plenty of water throughout the day and to refill their bottles regularly.
- Staff have been briefed on how to spot signs of heat stress and heat exhaustion and what to do should they be concerned. We will always keep parents informed if we are worried about a child.
- We recognise that children cope with heat in different ways, and you know your children best. If you feel that your child will struggle in school in the afternoon heat, we are offering an optional pick-up time of 12.30 on both Monday and Tuesday. If you plan to collect your child at 12.30, please complete the form on School Spider.
- If you plan to pick up at 12.30, we will offer school lunches beforehand to make sure those entitled to free school meals get them.



# Ashchurch Primary School

Ashchurch, Tewksbury, Gloucestershire, GL20 8LA  
T: 01684 292376  
E: [admin@ashchurch.gloucs.sch.uk](mailto:admin@ashchurch.gloucs.sch.uk)  
W: [ashchurchprimary.co.uk](http://ashchurchprimary.co.uk)

 @AshchurchSchool



- The disco scheduled for 3.15 – 4.45pm on Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> July will be postponed. We will plan to hold the disco on the morning of Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> July during the final morning before we break up for summer at 12pm.

## What you can do:

- It is essential that children bring a water bottle into school so that they can keep hydrated.
- Please ensure your child has a sun hat and sun cream.
- Choose appropriate clothing for your child that helps them to feel comfortable but also protected from the sun.
- Collect your child at 12.30pm if you feel that they would be adversely affected by the afternoon heat at school.

Situations like this often change at short notice, but we wanted to communicate our plan as early as possible to reduce worry over the weekend. If we receive any further information or guidance from the Local Authority or Department for Education before Monday, we will of course let you know.

Thank you as always for your support and understanding in this final week of term.

Mr Gibson & Mr Rickaby

