



# Edgewood Primary School

## Building skills and values for life

### Red Extreme Heat Warning

The first thing I want to say is that school remains open to all pupils and we have been given a firm instruction from the DfE to remain open and to expect all eligible pupils to attend school next week.

With the weather forecast for Monday and Tuesday next week we will be making a number of changes to school for these two days.

- There will be non-uniform days on Monday and Tuesday
  - Children should wear light coloured and loose-fitting clothing. Please ensure dresses or skirts are knee length and all clothing is appropriate for school.
  - Please ensure children's shoulders are fully covered as this is a prime site for people to burn.
  - Please ensure children are sent to school with a hat, preferably a wide-brimmed hat that will offer protection to the neck.
  - Please ensure footwear is appropriate and do not send children to school in shoes they may trip or stub toes in.
- Ensure children are wearing Factor 50 or 50+ sun cream. Please send them in to school with additional sun cream to reapply. Please note many 'all-day' creams are not effective beyond 4-5 hours in extreme heat and if you are in any doubt please send them with additional cream.
- Children will not be playing actively at break and lunch times outside but will use shaded areas under trees and canopies to get some fresh air, a break from the classroom and their work and a chance to be with their friends and classmates.
- Children will be able to drink at all times and will be regularly encouraged to drink by staff. (I have spoken to children in assembly today about needing to hydrate overnight and before and after school as well for their safety and to also continue to eat normally, even though we may not feel like it in extreme heat such as this).
- PE sessions will not take place but suitable activities that do not involve physical exertion will be in their place.



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- Classrooms will be as well-ventilated as possible early and late in the day. Windows will be closed when outside temperatures exceed indoor temperatures to try and keep the heat out of the classroom. (Please note we are advised not to use fans when the temperature exceeds 35°C as this may worsen dehydration.)
- Blinds will be used to stop sun entering rooms wherever possible.
- All staff will ensure that any electrical items not being actively used are turned off to reduce residual heat in the school buildings. (Please note the lights in school are efficient LEDs to minimise heat but they will also be turned off as the temperatures climb.)

Teachers are also free to change their lessons and take children outside in shaded areas if they are cooler than their classroom. All classes will have regular breaks to keep hydrated.

### **Sports days**

Nursery will still have a short games session 9:15-9:45am on Monday under the shade canopies on the playground. They will have lots of water and these will be gentler activities suitable for the 25°C currently predicted then. Nursery parents are still welcome to attend as arranged. (If the weather forecast for that time slot continues to increase we may have no choice but to postpone this event but we will let you know as soon as possible if this is the case.)

For the rest of school, the **sports day on Tuesday can no longer safely go ahead**, sorry. The forecast for that day is to be nearly 30°C by 10am and we do not have enough shade for events to all be held under canopies or trees.

We will move sports day to **Thursday morning** and parents will still be welcome to attend as per previous letters. We will confirm these arrangements next week.

We will monitor this situation over the weekend and during next week and, if we need to make any further changes we will inform you as soon as we are able to.

Yours faithfully,



Ed Seeley,

Head teacher