



16th July 2022

Dear Families,

Re: Red Weather Warning

As you will know, the weather forecast is for continuing sunshine and high temperatures, particularly at the beginning of next week. The UK Health Security Agency (UKHSA) has issued a level 4 weather warning. The grading warns of adverse health effects for the public, not just those most vulnerable to extreme heat. This is very different from normal periods of warm weather, which we have been experiencing and fortunately is a rare event in this country.

At school, I have risk assessed the situation and we plan to take the following measures:

- Temporary variance to staff dress code, e.g. vest tops, shorts etc.
- Ventilate the building – getting windows and doors open from 6am in the morning where possible
- Reducing the use of heat producing electrical equipment wherever possible, e.g. PC's, printers and whiteboards
- No physically strenuous activities, e.g. PE
- Overhead lighting will be switched off around school to mitigate any additional heat created by the bulbs
- Encouragement of all pupils to drink cool water throughout the day
- We do have fans in every room
- Ice-lollies/poles have been bought to cool the children down at the hottest part of the day
- We will be keeping an eye on the children for any signs of heat illness, outlined in the Department for Health and Social Care Guidance found [here](#).

We know that some of our children will cope better with the heat and with some of the measures that might help protect them, but there are other things you can consider:

- If your child has epilepsy and has heat induced seizures or any serious medical conditions, I will support you in your decision as to the best location for your child during these extreme temperatures
- Send your children to school in loose, light coloured clothing **with sunhats**
- Apply waterproof sunscreen to your child before they come to school – above factor 15 as a minimum, and with UVA protection
- Send children to school with refillable water bottles

In order to ensure a positive and safe experience, we will be offering a slightly altered timetable throughout the start of the week, rather than our usual one, to ensure pupils, given the heat, are able to be as comfortable as possible. This will also involve playtimes being inside and any after school clubs that involve strenuous activities – such as Street Beat – being cancelled. I will review DRFC on Thursday morning. Tuesday's trip to Sundown Adventure Land will continue as normal, with pupils kept hydrated and out of the sun as much as possible - additional bottles of water have been purchased. Wrap Around Care will also continue as normal.

Yours faithfully,

P. Phillips

Mr. P. Phillips
Head teacher