



Olney Infant Academy *Happily Learning Together*



Spinney Hill Road, Olney, MK46 5AD
email: admin@olneyinfant.org

Tel: 01234 711388
www.olneyinfantacademy.co.uk

Headteacher: Mrs Sarah Armitage

sarah.armitage@olneyinfant.org

15th July 2022

Extreme Heat: Monday 18th and Tuesday 19th July.

Dear Families,

As I am sure that you are aware, early next week the country will be experiencing record-breaking high temperatures. I am aware that there is a **RED weather warning** of extreme heat in place. The Red warning sets out that we should all be prepared to change plans to protect ourselves and family. This is based on the forecast from the Met Office.

No guidance, at the time of writing this letter, has been issued by the DfE to say that schools should close. We will take all steps necessary to ensure children are kept safe and comfortable including monitoring of internal temperatures, adequate ventilation, making water available throughout the day and at multiple locations around school, relaxation of uniform requirements, ensuring that children are moved out of any areas that become too hot into a cooler area, and limiting time out in the sun to absolute minimum.

Please note, we do not have any air-conditioned spaces for children and will be unable to rotate children around the school like some other schools can. We will do our absolute best to keep the children comfortable but if this becomes unmanageable, then the school remaining open may change. The well-being and safety of the children will always come first.

What will be in place at OIA:

Doors and windows will be open early in the morning to release any heat from overnight. Doors and windows will be shut when the outside air temperature rises to keep excess heat out. Fans will be used for ventilation under 35 degrees. Classroom blinds will be closed to keep the sun out.

- As already agreed, children can come to school wearing relaxed/sport clothing/PE kit. For Monday and Tuesday this can be relaxed further to whatever you feel is the most suitable. Wearing light colours, is recommended, as this reduces heat retention. Please ensure that proper footwear is worn – no open toed sandals for children.
- All children **should** have sunhats and suncream applied before coming to school for very limited time in the sun.
- All children should have water bottles (named) and these will be available all through the day for children. We will be taking pauses to make sure everyone is drinking
- Reduced expectations for learning time as we are aware that children will not be able to 'carry on as normal' during the heatwave.
- *At the time of writing, the Year 2 water fight will go ahead but we will be reducing the time spent outside in the sun. Sun hats must be worn.*



- Breaktimes will be very limited time on the playground and children will be able to relax in shady spots and in shaded areas.
- CO2 monitors will be used to monitor the school temperatures throughout the day.
- Parents will be contacted immediately should we have concerns regarding the wellbeing of any pupils.

You can see more information that we have referred to here:

<https://educationhub.blog.gov.uk/2022/07/14/advice-for-schools-and-other-education-settings-during-a-heatwave/>

Best wishes, stay cool!

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Sarah Armitage', written in a cursive style.

Sarah Armitage
Headteacher