

23<sup>rd</sup> June 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

As you are aware, a weather warning has been issued due to the exceptionally high temperatures forecast for the remainder of this week. Afternoon temperatures are expected to reach between 36°C and 38°C.

After careful consideration, we have decided that the school day will finish early on Wednesday. This decision has been made for several reasons:

- Very few areas of the school have air conditioning, meaning most classrooms are likely to become too hot for effective teaching and learning during the afternoon.
- It will be unsafe for kitchen staff to prepare and serve a full lunch service in the high temperatures, as the kitchen is not air conditioned.
- Government guidance advises keeping students indoors and out of direct sunlight during the hottest part of the day. Unfortunately, we do not have sufficient large, cool indoor spaces to accommodate all students safely at lunchtime.
- We are concerned about students travelling home later in the day, when temperatures are forecast to be at their highest.

Students who are eligible for free school meals will be able to collect a packed lunch before leaving. Light meals will also be available to purchase. **It is important to note that attendance is still required in the morning as we are currently being inspected by Ofsted.**

Dismissal times will be staggered as follows:

12:00 - Year 7            12:10 - Year 8  
12:20 - Year 9            12:30 - Year 10

Please note that the Year 10 History examination scheduled for Wednesday afternoon will no longer take place and will be rescheduled for a later date.

The Senior Leadership Team will meet this afternoon following the Ofsted inspection to review arrangements for Dream Days on Thursday and Friday. Activities may be scaled back and could include further early finishes. We will provide an update later this evening.

To help students stay cool, we would also like to remind families that:

- Students may wear their PE kit to school.
- Handheld fans are permitted.
- Students should bring a refillable water bottle.

Thank you for your understanding and continued support as we prioritise the safety and wellbeing of our students and staff during this period of extreme heat.

Yours sincerely,



Emma Thurston  
Headteacher