

22 June 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

### **Temporary School Closure Due to Extreme Weather**

I am writing to inform you that, following careful consideration, we have taken the decision to close the school temporarily due to the extreme heat forecast later this week.

The Met Office has issued a red heat health alert for extreme heat on Wednesday and Thursday this week – a red alert indicates a significant risk to life for even the healthy population. More information can be found [here](#). Temperatures are expected to reach exceptionally high levels, and guidance highlights that these conditions may pose a risk to all individuals, not just those who are more vulnerable.

As a Trust, our priority is always the safety and wellbeing of our learners, staff, and wider community. Despite exploring a range of mitigating actions, such as adjusted timetables, reduced physical activity, and measures to keep classrooms cool, we have concluded that we cannot guarantee a safe learning environment across our school sites during the peak of the heat.

Key factors informing this decision include:

- Prolonged high temperatures within classrooms, many of which are not designed for extreme heat
- Limited ability to sufficiently cool indoor spaces
- Inability to mitigate against risks of heat stroke and heat exhaustion in learners and staff
- Risks associated with travel to and from school in these conditions
- The potential impact on learner concentration, wellbeing, and safety

**The school will therefore be closed on Wednesday 24 June and Thursday 25 June, in line with the period of highest risk identified in the weather warning.**

Please note that the school will be open as usual on Tuesday 23 June and Friday 26 June. Any visits or events scheduled for Wednesday or Thursday should be assumed to be cancelled.

We are currently undertaking risk assessments for learners, staff and our sites for Tuesday and Friday to ensure the safety and wellbeing of all.

On Wednesday and Thursday:

- We will provide remote learning activities. These will be placed on google classroom by 9:00 am on Wednesday

- Staff will remain available via usual communication channels for any urgent queries
- We will continue to monitor the situation closely and will update you if circumstances change

We recognise that this decision may cause inconvenience, and we appreciate your understanding. This has not been taken lightly but reflects our responsibility to act in the best interests of our whole school community.

Please ensure that children stay safe, remain well-hydrated, and avoid exposure to the hottest parts of the day where possible. The information from the DfE linked [here](#) may be helpful, as it includes advice on how to keep children safe and cool, both indoors and outdoors, as well as guidance on recognising the signs of heat exhaustion and heatstroke. We also ask that parents and carers take extra care to supervise children near water during this period, as the risk of water-related incidents can increase in hot weather.

Thank you for your continued support.

Yours sincerely,



Claire Moloney-Banks  
Chief Executive Officer  
Olympus Academy Trust



Steve Kneller  
Headteacher  
Patchway Community School