



Bramcote College

A member of The White Hills Park Trust

17th July 2022

Dear Parents & Carers,

As promised at the end of last week, I am writing to confirm arrangements for tomorrow, Monday 18 July in light of the red weather warning in place and the guidance offered by the government. The safety and wellbeing of our students and staff continues to be our priority and we would like to be able to keep school open, as guidance suggests we should, with some significant adjustments in place. There is a raft of measures already in place to ensure that everyone is kept safe. Please refer to email sent on Friday 14 July for specific details about relaxed uniform / PE kit, indoor break space and access to air conditioning if necessary.

To reflect the fact that some parents and carers will be anxious about the Red Heatwave warning, school will start at the normal time tomorrow, but we are proposing that all pupils go home at 1:30 pm. We will also offer supervision on the school site for students whose parents require it from 1:30 pm to 3:20pm. Please ask your child to let their tutor know that they need an 'afternoon place'.

We have listened to concerned parents and carers and have decided that parents/carers can keep their child at home on Monday and Tuesday if they wish to do so but must let school know in the usual way. We will authorise absence where the reason is "heatwave". Students kept at home must be under the supervision of an appropriate adult and may not be in a public place during school hours (this would be treated as truancy and parents/ carers may be fined). Students can access Teams, where there will be set work and can also complete Century for core subjects, we will expect that this is completed unless your child is unwell.

Tomorrow afternoon we will review the situation for opening on Tuesday; currently the plan is the same as for Monday, with a normal start and early finish.

If your child normally receives a Free School Meal, it is going to be very difficult to enable them to receive this if they do not attend school. We simply do not have the logistics to organise/distribute FSM.

Please ensure that your child is aware of the risks of heat stroke, dehydration, sunburn and open water during the hot weather and takes appropriate precautions, especially if they go out with friends without adult supervision over the next few days outside school hours.

NHS and government guidance can be found here:

<https://www.nhs.uk/live-well/seasonal-health/heatwave-how-to-cope-in-hot-weather/>

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/heatwave-plan-for-england/beat-the-heat-staying-safe-in-hot-weather>

The Open Water Education Network (OWEN – in memory of Owen Jenkins) has useful information for young people about the risks of open water which can be very tempting in hot weather: <https://owen7.org.uk/> I must stress again the importance of children being at home/supervised and not playing near open water. I met Nicola Jenkins, Owen's mum at our summer fair on Friday; the risk of fatality in open water is real and I'd urge to speak to your child about this. Owen's mum continues to spread the message about risks of open water and had offered to come into school this week to speak to our young people.

In closing, I would like to thank you for your ongoing support under such unusual circumstances.

Kind regards

Heidi Gale

Headteacher

Bramcote College