



25 June 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

I am writing to inform you that, due to the continuation of the current period of exceptionally hot weather, the school day on Friday 26 June will finish early at 12:30pm.

As you will be aware, the Red Weather Warning has now been extended until 11:00pm on Friday, we have been carefully monitoring conditions across the school site throughout the week. Despite implementing a range of measures to mitigate the impact of the heat — including maximising ventilation, using blinds and deploying all available fans — there has been a steady consistent build-up of heat and humidity within teaching spaces. The building is very well insulated, which is beneficial in colder conditions but has contributed to retaining heat during this sustained period of high temperatures. As a result, each day has started from a progressively higher baseline temperature, limiting the effectiveness of overnight cooling and the mitigation measures in place, most notably impacting P5 lessons.

By Friday afternoon, it is anticipated that internal classroom temperatures will reach levels that are no longer conducive to effective teaching and learning and will impact the comfort and wellbeing of both students and staff. On this basis, a decision has been taken to close the school to students at lunchtime to avoid the most intense conditions during the Friday afternoon period.

This decision has not been taken lightly but is intended to ensure a safe and sensible response to the exceptional weather conditions, while recognising the limitations of the building in prolonged extreme heat.

We have been incredibly impressed with how well our students and staff have coped during what has been a very hot and demanding week. Their resilience, focus and positive attitude have been commendable, and we hope that this earlier finish on Friday will provide some welcome relief and support everyone in managing the extended high temperatures.

For those students due to sit progression examinations on Friday afternoon, these have been rescheduled as follows:

- Year 10 Languages: moved to Friday 3 July (morning)
- Year 12 Psychology: moved to Friday 3 July (afternoon)

We appreciate your understanding regarding these necessary changes.

Please note that, unfortunately, we are unable to alter school bus transport arrangements at short notice. Students who rely on school buses will therefore be able to remain on site, supervised in the library by senior staff, until buses depart at the normal time. Of course, if you are able to make alternative arrangements, students are welcome to leave at 12:30pm.

An extended break time service will be provided to students having a meal during the day as a replacement for Lunch. Students will return to their tutor room after P3 to gain a PM registration mark before leaving site at 12:30.

This information will also be shared with students during tutor time to ensure everyone is clear about the arrangements.

Thank you, as always, for your continued support. It is greatly appreciated.

Yours sincerely

Mike Lowdell
Headteacher