

Extreme Weather Update and School Adaptations

Friday 3rd July 2026

Dear Parents and Friends of Castle Hill,

We are writing to express our sincere thanks for your incredible support and cooperation last week. It was extremely hot, and we found ourselves adapting almost hour by hour to keep both the children and staff safe. Please be assured that the well-being of our school community was, and always will be, at the heart of those decisions.

We are closely monitoring the weather forecast. As you are likely aware, temperatures next week are expected to rise again into the 30s. While it may not reach the extreme peaks of last week, temperatures are set to continue rising. In response to recent challenges, we have thoroughly reviewed our risk assessment and processes from both a teaching and learning and an operational perspective. We have also analysed the differences between the two campuses so will be treating them as separate sites. This is largely due to the presence of air conditioning in most classrooms at Greenbank.

Moving forward, we have established a tiered action plan based on temperature thresholds. These temperature thresholds maybe indoor/classroom temperatures or the external temperature depending on the activity we are reviewing.

- **Up to 24°C:** Business as usual.
- **25°C – 28°C:** Enhanced Action Plan.
- **28°C – 30°C:** Enhanced Action Plan Plus.
- **30°C – 35°C:** Critical Action Plan.

Adjustments Starting Monday 6th July

As current forecast temperatures are already sitting at 28°C and above, **we will be operating under our "Enhanced Action Plus" protocols starting Monday 6th July.** Please note the following immediate adjustments:

- **Uniform:** Pupils are permitted to attend school in their **PE kits** until further notice to ensure they remain as comfortable as possible. Caps and sunhats are encouraged.
- **Preparation:** Please ensure your child arrives at school with a **refillable water bottle** and has **sunscreen applied** before leaving home.
- **Site Management:** We will be doing everything we can to keep building temperatures down, including opening windows first thing, closing blinds and switching off unnecessary lighting and electronics.

- **Greenbank Site:** We are already liaising closely with our infant school colleagues to coordinate plans. Fortunately, the Greenbank site benefits from air conditioning in most teaching spaces, so we anticipate learning there will be less impacted.

High Temperature Protocols (30°C and above)

Should temperatures hit the 30°C mark or higher, the following additional measures will trigger:

- **Activities:** Strenuous physical activities and PE lessons will be amended or curtailed.
- **Curriculum:** Curriculum plans may be adjusted to allow pupils to be relocated to cooler areas within the school building. Flexible groupings/mixing year groups to manage pupils more effectively.
- **After-School Clubs:** After-school club providers will be asked to ensure their provision is adapted safely to the heat. If pupil safety is still a concern clubs may be cancelled.

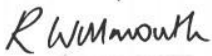
Review of Upcoming Events

Due to the forecast, several scheduled events next week are currently under review. We will confirm final arrangements as soon as possible, but please note the potential changes below:

- **Monday 6th July (Summer Term SEND Parents' Evening):** This may be switched to an online meeting.
- **Wednesday 8th July (Year 3/4 Disco at Greenbank):** This may be postponed or modified.
- **Wednesday 8th July (Head Boy/Head Girl speeches):** We are looking at adapting the times and format of the speeches to ensure pupils are not sat in a hot hall for long periods.
- **Thursday 9th July (Year R to Year 5 Disco at Rooksdown):** This may be postponed or modified.

Our priority remains keeping your children safe, cool and learning. We will keep you updated as final decisions are made via Dojo or email. Thank you once again for your patience, understanding and partnership as we navigate this period of warm weather.

Yours sincerely,



Rebecca Willmouth
Co-Headteacher



John DF Martin
Co-Headteacher