

Portsmouth Primary School and Early Years  
Sundridge Close,  
Cosham, Portsmouth,  
Hampshire PO6 3JL  
Tel: 023 9237 8991  
[admin@portsdown.portsmouth.sch.uk](mailto:admin@portsdown.portsmouth.sch.uk)



Headteacher: Mr A Vaghela

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## Important Update: Current Heatwave

**Dear Parents and Carers,**

As you will no doubt have seen in the news, the Met Office has issued an Extreme Heat Warning for Wednesday and Thursday, with temperatures predicted to climb to unprecedented levels.

I am writing to update you on how we will be managing this at school. While some schools in the area have made the decision to close, **we will remain open**. However, if you wish to do so, you will have the option to pick your child up early at 1:20pm on both Wednesday and Thursday. Friday is our Inset day and back to normal on Monday.

Our school is the heart of our community, and we believe staying open is the right decision for our families for several important reasons:

- **Supporting Working Families:** We are very conscious that we have a planned INSET day this Friday, meaning the school is already closed then. We know that many parents have already had to book time off work or arrange childcare for Friday; asking you to manage extra days of closure at short notice is simply not fair or manageable for many working households
- **A Safe, Consistent Space:** For many of our pupils, school provides a safe, and stable environment that helps keep anxiety low when external conditions feel unpredictable
- **Health and Social Wellbeing:** School ensures that every child has access to a meal and the essential opportunity to socialize, play quietly, and interact with their peers. Not all of our children get this out of school.

### Our Heatwave Safety Measures

Please rest assured that we are taking the heat incredibly seriously and have adapted our daily routines to keep your children safe and comfortable. These measures include:

- **Adapting the Curriculum:** Shifting to low-energy, classroom-based activities. Active PE lessons and running games are paused.
- **Shade and Hydration:** Ensuring extra regular water breaks throughout the day and keeping children strictly to well-shaded areas during outdoor break times.
- **Relaxed Dress Code:** Children are welcome to wear their school PE kits or lightweight, light-coloured casual clothes (shorts and t-shirts) for the rest of the week. Please ensure they have a hat and that sun cream is applied before they arrive.

## **Attendance Expectations & Early Collection Details**

Because we are fully operational and have these robust safety measures in place, **our standard attendance expectations remain firmly in place.** Every child is expected to attend school unless there is a credible, valid medical reason. The weather itself is not a reason for absence.

We really do understand and are sympathetic to the current situation. Therefore, you have the option to collect your child early on both **Wednesday and Thursday at 1:20pm.**

**Important Note on Timings:** Collection is strictly **after lunch** at 1:20pm, not before. This ensures that every child receives their lunch and has a chance to sit with their friends before leaving. If you choose not to pick your child up early, our wonderful staff will be here to care for them until the standard end of the school day.

If you do plan to pick your child up at 1:20pm tomorrow or Thursday, please let the class teacher know on drop off if you can so we can organise a smooth dismissal.

Thank you, as always, for your incredible support, flexibility, and partnership as we navigate these unusual weather conditions together.

Warm regards,

Mr A Vaghela, Headteacher