



Dear Parents and Carers,

In light of the severe hot weather warnings currently affecting Carshalton, we have taken the decision to implement a partial school closure over the next three days to ensure the safety and well-being of our children and staff.

Please read the following arrangements carefully:

12:00pm Early Finish (Tuesday 23rd June – Thursday 25th June)

The school day will finish at **12:00pm** for the majority of students on Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday. Friday is currently scheduled to run as a normal school day; we will review this and update you by lunchtime on Thursday.

Absences and Attendance

We understand that the extreme heat causes varying challenges for families. Therefore, all pupil absences from tomorrow (Tuesday) through to Thursday will be automatically **authorised**, but you do need to report us of this absence in line with safeguarding procedures. If we do not hear from you, we will initiate safeguarding procedures.

Full-Time Provision for Vulnerable and Critical Worker Children

The school will remain open for the full normal school day for pupils who meet any of the following criteria:

- Have an EHCP (Education, Health and Care Plan).
- Have active Social Care involvement (Early Help, Child in Need, or Child Protection).
- Have been explicitly invited/identified by the school.
- Are children of Critical Workers who are/both are working during those afternoons:
 - *Health and Social Care: Medical professionals, care workers, and equipment supply chains.*
 - *Education and Childcare: Teachers, nursery staff, and learning support personnel.*
 - *Public Safety and National Security: Emergency services, prison staff, and border security.*
 - *Key Public Services: Justice system workers, religious staff, and public service journalists.*
 - *Local and National Government: Administrative staff delivering public services and processing benefits.*
 - *Food and Necessary Goods: Workers across the entire supply, production, and delivery chain.*
 - *Transport: Operators managing all passenger and freight travel networks.*
 - *Utilities, Communication, and Financial Services: Staff maintaining energy, water, telecom, postal, and banking systems.*

Mr J Walters, Headteacher

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If your child fits into the categories above and requires a full-time space, or if you are a critical worker requiring afternoon supervision, **please complete [this Google Form](#) by 8:30am tomorrow for EACH of your children.**

Children staying for the full day will be looked after in the coolest, most well-ventilated areas of the school (such as the main hall). Children staying on site for the full day will be provided with lunch as detailed below.

School Meals & Free School Meals (FSM)

- **Children staying full-time:** Standard school lunches will be provided as normal but with cold variations to the menu.
- **Children going home at 12:00pm:** If your child is in receipt of Free School Meals and you would like a packed lunch prepared for them to take home at midday, this must be requested via [this Google Form](#) by 9.30am tomorrow please for **EACH of your children..** Please note that no meal vouchers will be provided during this partial closure.
- Please note that we are not able to take packed lunch orders for children who are not in receipt of free school meals who are leaving at 12.00pm.

Swimming

Our pool has no shade; therefore, swimming is cancelled on Tuesday 23rd June – Thursday 25th June.

Online Learning & Welfare Checks

While children are at home, we are not asking for rigorous academic pressure due to the heat but we do expect at least one hour of online learning. We are signposting families to free, high-quality learning resources via [Oak National Academy](#) and other free online platforms here:

- [BBC Bitesize](#) offers daily structured lessons, interactive guides, videos, and quizzes.
- For children interested in science and nature, [STEM Learning](#) provides a dedicated hub of home-learning activities, while the [Primary Science Teaching Trust](#) offers downloadable, practical science experiments designed for the home kitchen.
- Children can learn the fundamentals of computer science through gamified blocks at [Code.org](#) or create their own animations and games using the MIT-developed [Scratch](#).

Ideas for Activities:

- **Water Play (Brilliant for staying cool):** Fill a washing-up bowl or plastic tub with water. Give them plastic cups, spoons, and funnels. Ask them: *Which cup holds the most water? Can you catch the bubbles?*
- **Ice Exploration:** Freeze some small plastic toys inside ice cubes. Give your child a blunt spoon or a small cup of warm water to "rescue" the toys. This builds incredible fine motor skills and scientific curiosity!
- **Storytime & Speaking:** Find the coolest spot in the house, lie down together, and read a favorite book. Ask your child to predict what happens next or describe their favorite character.
- **Mark Making in the Shade:** If you have a shaded outdoor area, give your child a paintbrush and a pot of plain water. Let them "paint" the walls or patio with water. It's fantastic for pre-writing skills and dries instantly!

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Early Years:

- [Oxford Owl for Home](#) offers a fantastic free eBook library featuring familiar reading scheme characters, alongside games and a dedicated podcast filled with creative storytelling ideas for parents of under-5s.
- [Phonics Play](#) offers excellent free interactive games (like *Buried Treasure*) that help children practice blending sounds in a gamified, pressure-free way.
- The BBC's [Tiny Happy People](#) is an incredible repository of free, simple activity ideas, play hacks, and short videos specifically designed to help parents develop their child's communication and language skills from home.
- For free downloadable activity sheets, tracing patterns, and cutting templates to stock your home zones, [Early Years Resources](#) provides a massive selection of free EYFS-mapped printables.

Our staff will remain on-site and will be conducting phone calls to families over the next three days. These calls are designed to check on your family's well-being, see if you are coping okay in the heat, and offer guidance on accessing the free online materials.

Transport

If you require urgent transport support with transport, please contact the school office immediately.

Thank you for your rapid cooperation, support, and understanding as we navigate these unprecedented temperatures.

Kind regards

Mr Walters

(Headteacher)

Mr J Walters, Headteacher

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