



Iceni Academy
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Principal: Mrs Lesley Hogg



17th July 2022

Dear parent/ carer,

RE: Emergency School Closure

Due to the unprecedented red weather warning in place on Monday 18th and Tuesday 19th July 2022, we have made the difficult decision to **fully close the academy to all colleagues and students** on these two days, reopening to all on Wednesday 20th July 2022. We will continue to monitor the situation and will be in touch with any alterations to this plan. Our priority is to ensure that students and staff remain safe.

We had already arranged a range of contingency measures (around uniform, for example, and indoor spaces at break and lunchtime) to be in place to help protect our students, but our dynamic risk assessment suggests these will not be adequate in light of the red weather warning to keep everyone safe.

The Met Office and Government's red warning applies to most of England including the villages and towns around Methwold, and states that 'substantial changes in working practices and daily routines will be required'. With the temperatures forecast to reach 39°C on Monday and 41°C on Tuesday in Methwold, we have made this decision in order to keep our students and colleagues safe and not expose them to the extremes of temperature forecast in the classrooms and the grounds of the academy.

Additionally, a very large proportion of our students and colleagues travel to and from the academy across a large distance. The temperatures on public and school transport are likely to be higher than the forecast temperatures. In light of this, all students will study remotely on Monday 18th and Tuesday 19th July.

All teachers will set work on Microsoft Teams for your child to complete whilst working at home, following the usual academy timetable. This will take the form of knowledge consolidation work, focusing on recapping and retrieving learning from this year. Teachers will be available via Teams message and email to answer any questions your child may have about their learning during their regularly timetabled lesson.

Teams can be accessed via laptop/ desktop, tablet and mobile phone, as well as some more limited access via internet enabled games consoles such as PlayStation.

I have attached some guidance on logging in to Teams, in case your child requires some support in accessing their account.

I have also attached a Safeguarding Bulletin from Mr Carmichael, which includes a range of advice to keep us all safe around bodies of water as well as keeping safe online. We strongly advise all students to remain indoors across the next two days in order to best protect themselves from the extreme weather outside. This link shares some important and useful advice from the NHS with regards to staying safe and well during a heatwave: <https://www.nhs.uk/live-well/seasonal-health/heatwave-how-to-cope-in-hot-weather/>.

Thank you for your support in these unprecedented times. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact the academy.

Yours faithfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'A. Hogg'.

Mrs
Principal

Hogg