

22nd June 2026

Dear Families,

I am writing to confirm that Altwood Church of England School will be **closed to all students on Wednesday 24th and Thursday 25th June** due to the **Red Heat Warning issued by the Met Office**. School will be open as normal tomorrow Tuesday 23rd June and Friday 26th June unless further guidance is issued.

This decision has not been taken lightly. I have sought guidance from the Royal Borough of Windsor and Maidenhead (RBWM), the Agape Trust, and through discussion with local headteachers. However, it is important to recognise that every school context is different, with varying site conditions, facilities, and levels of vulnerability among students and staff. Having carefully considered our own circumstances, I firmly believe this is the most responsible decision and is in the best interests of the Altwood community.

Learning during the closure

- Work will be set for students via ClassCharts
- These will be **independent learning tasks**
- **There will be no live lessons** during this period
- **Year 10 and 12 exams will be rearranged. Please look out for correspondence from Mr Burdett.**

This approach reflects both the practical challenges of delivering live teaching in these conditions and our priority to minimise screen time and additional pressures during extreme heat.

Health and safety guidance

We strongly encourage all families to follow national advice during this period:

- Students should, wherever possible, **remain indoors during the hottest parts of the day**
- Please ensure students:
 - Stay well hydrated
 - Avoid prolonged exposure to direct sunlight
- We particularly urge parents to reinforce **water safety guidance**:
 - Students should **not swim in open water** (e.g. rivers, lakes, quarries)
 - These environments can be extremely dangerous, especially during hot weather when risks increase

The current conditions present significant health risks, and we ask for your support in ensuring students remain safe.

We will continue to monitor official guidance closely and will provide a further update if needed.

Thank you for your understanding, support, and partnership in prioritising the safety and wellbeing of our students.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in purple ink, appearing to read 'C. Harden'.

Mrs C. Harden

Headteacher

Altwood Church of England School