



18th July 2022

Dear Family

Further to our email on Friday, we have continued to monitor changing weather reports and national government guidelines on working in a heatwave (<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/heatwave-plan-for-england/looking-after-children-and-those-in-early-years-settings-during-heatwaves-for-teachers-and-professionals>) and have undertaken an assessment based on conditions today. Our main concern is that we simply do not have enough cooler classrooms to be able to accommodate all the learners we will have on site. We have no rooms that benefit from air conditioning and many others rely on fans, yet we have been informed that once temperatures rise above 35 degrees, these are rendered ineffective. However, we do also remain committed to maintaining our service to our community as far as possible.

We are proposing to adjust the timings of the day tomorrow, to have an earlier finish, with all sessions slightly shortened to assist this. The day will therefore run as normal and will finish at 12.50pm. We have contacted the school bus companies who will arrive at school at the earlier time to collect the children who travel by school bus.

It will be our expectation that when learners are dismissed, they will go straight home, wearing a hat and sun cream, and will stay indoors in the shade. All advice points to the fact that it would be unsafe to be outside for a prolonged period, so we certainly do not expect them to be gathering in groups in parks or on the streets, and we trust that you will also impress this very important message upon them.

We do reserve the right to send home students even earlier than indicated in the plan above if we feel there is a serious risk to their safety or wellbeing. We would always notify you of this decision before doing so. I would just like to reiterate the messages from our earlier email – bring plenty of water, put on a hat (ideally wide brimmed) to be worn outdoors, and apply high factor sun cream frequently.

In situations such as this, we recognise that our strategies will not please everyone, but we would politely request your understanding that there are several factors to balance and we are doing our best to take account of all of them. Please let us know if you have any concerns or queries and we will do our best to respond.

Thank you for your support.

Yours sincerely

Jo Brook
Deputy Headteacher

Headteacher: James Saunders MBA

Honywood School Westfield Drive Coggeshall Essex CO6 1PZ. Tel: 01376 561231 email: admin@honywoodschool.com

Honywood Community Science School is part of the Saffron Academy Trust, a Company limited by guarantee, registered in England & Wales.

No. 7618351 Registered Office: Audley End Road, Saffron Walden, Essex CB11 4UH