

Monday 22 June 2026

Dear Parents,

Please see below for this week's updates regarding the current hot weather and our management of the school grounds.

We have a comprehensive hot weather risk assessment in place that aligns strictly with government guidelines. The school day is being adapted to ensure the environment remains safe and comfortable for all pupils, staff, and visitors.

Hot Weather Risk Assessment: What the school is doing:

- **Classroom Management:** Windows are being opened as early as possible each morning. Blinds will remain down and internal doors left open to maintain airflow. Electrical lighting and equipment will be kept to a minimum to prevent extra heat.
- **Cooling Measures:** Classrooms have fans in them and classes can use a couple of other spaces across the school that benefit from air conditioning across the day.
- **Timetable Adjustments:** Staff are reviewing all scheduled outdoor activities (including PE, lunchtimes and Extend). If classrooms become too hot, classes will move to shaded areas outside or adjust to less strenuous activities.
- **Playground Shade:** Children will be directed to play in the shade when outside.
- **Hydration:** Staff will be encouraging the children to drink water throughout the day. Staff have also been fully briefed on recognising the early signs of heat stress.

Hot Weather Risk Assessment: What you can do as a parent:

- **Water Bottles:** Please send your child to school with a **labelled, refillable water bottle** every day. You may wish to freeze the bottle overnight so it stays cool and melts gradually during the day.
- **Sunscreen:** Please apply high-factor sunscreen to your child before school.
 - **Older pupils** may bring a named bottle to school to reapply themselves.
 - **Early Years (Nursery & Reception):** School-provided sunscreen is available to top up during the day, managed via teacher consent. If you do not give consent for school-provided sunscreen, you must supply your own named bottle.
 - *Note: Children without sunscreen may have their outdoor exposure limited during peak sun hours.*
- **Sun Hats:** Please ensure your child brings a labelled wide-brimmed sun hat or cap daily.

Oak Processionary Moths & Insect Bites

We have identified Oak Processionary Moths (OPM) on a tree on the school site. This is a common issue across Enfield parks and schools during the summer, and we have successfully managed it previously. Following advice from Enfield Health and Safety last week, we have updated our risk assessment and taken the following immediate actions:

- **Reporting:** The issue has been logged on the official Tree Alert website.
- **Cordoning:** The affected area has been securely cordoned off.
- **Removal:** An accredited tree surgeon has been instructed to remove them properly.
- **Briefing:** All staff, children, and lunchtime supervisors have been informed to keep away from the area.

Symptoms to look out for:

The hairs from these caterpillars can cause itchy skin rashes, eye irritation, sore throats, or breathing difficulties in extreme circumstances. If your child is medically vulnerable or has pre-existing health conditions, please inform their class teacher so we can maintain extra vigilance.

General Insect Bites:

We are also seeing an increase in general insect bites, which is typical for this time of year. Please note that our site is nearly 6 acres with a huge amount of green space and grass, and children are reporting bites sustained in various areas of the school, some of which are completely away from the cordoned-off oak tree.

To help protect your child from standard insect bites, you may find it helpful to apply insect repellent to them before they come to school or have them wear an insect-repelling band.

Monitoring Severe Reactions:

Please let the school know immediately if your child develops any severe reactions so that we can actively monitor the situation across the school site.

We will keep reviewing the situation daily and will update you immediately if any further changes are made this week.

Thank you for your support and understanding over the next few days.

Best wishes

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