



JOHN BLOW PRIMARY SCHOOL

Warm Weather Policy

June 2025

At John Blow Primary School, we are committed to safeguarding the health, safety, and wellbeing of all pupils and staff. During periods of warm or extreme heat, our priority is to minimise the risk of heat-related illnesses such as heat exhaustion, dehydration, and sunburn, particularly for young children who are more vulnerable to high temperatures.

Rationale

Exposure to high temperatures can pose serious health risks to children, especially during physical exertion. Therefore, it is essential that the school takes proactive measures to ensure that pupils remain cool, hydrated, and safe during the school day. This policy outlines the procedures we will follow when the weather is unusually warm, typically when temperatures exceed **28°C**.

Key Measures

- **Sporting Activities:**
When the temperature exceeds 28°C, all **outdoor sporting activities will be limited** or adapted to reduce exertion. **Physical Education (PE)** lessons will be relocated to **indoor spaces or shaded areas** wherever possible, with modifications made to the intensity of the activity to ensure safety and comfort.
- **Break and Lunchtime Supervision:**
During hot weather (28°C and above), **football and other high-energy games will not be permitted during playtimes and lunchtimes**. Pupils will instead be encouraged to engage in calm, low-intensity activities and to use shaded or indoor areas for rest and quiet play.
- **Hydration and Sun Protection:**
Pupils will be reminded regularly to drink water throughout the day. Staff will encourage pupils to refill water bottles as needed. Parents are expected to:
 - Ensure pupils come to school with a **refillable water bottle**, clearly labelled.
 - Apply **long-lasting sunscreen** at home before school.
 - Provide a **named sunhat** for outdoor use.

- **Trips, Enrichment and Events:**

The **Headteacher will assess the safety of scheduled school trips, sports events, or enrichment activities** on days of extreme heat. Where there is a potential risk to pupil wellbeing, activities may be **postponed, cancelled, or adapted**. Advance notice will be given to parents where possible. All such decisions will be made with children's safety as the overriding priority.

Decision-Making

All decisions related to adapting or cancelling events and activities due to warm weather will be made by the **Headteacher**, based on:

- Current and forecasted temperatures
- Level of physical activity involved
- Availability of shade and hydration
- Individual pupil needs and vulnerabilities

Parental Support

We ask for the cooperation of all families to help us implement this policy effectively. Ensuring children come to school prepared for warm weather—appropriately dressed, hydrated, and protected from the sun—helps us create a safe learning environment for all.

This policy will be reviewed annually, or in response to any significant weather changes or updated public health guidance.

Policy approved by governors – 18.06.25