



**Benhall Infant School &
St Mark's C of E Junior School**
Robert Burns Avenue
Cheltenham
Gloucestershire



Benhall Infant School: admin@benhall.gloucs.sch.uk Tel: 01242 234717
St Mark's C of E Junior School: admin@st-marks.gloucs.sch.uk Tel: 01242 702280

Thursday 25th June 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

St Mark's Junior School (along with Benhall Infants and Preschool) will be open tomorrow, Friday 26th June.

However, the extremely high temperatures are forecast to remain in place. If you feel that your child/ren would be better placed at home tomorrow afternoon, **we would be happy for you to pick up your child/ren at 12 noon** before the heat rises considerably. The absence will be authorised under these exceptional circumstances.

St Mark's Parents:

- If you are planning on collecting your child at 12 noon, ***please log onto Parent Pay and to confirm collection of your child***. This will be under the '**Other Items**' link as you log in. Click '**Early Collection Consent**' and answer '**Yes**' as relevant
- Pick-up of children will take place on the school playground in the usual way at 12 noon tomorrow.
- **Parents of Year 6 children must also give permission via Parent Pay** for their child to walk home if they are not being collected.
- SMOOSC (wrap around care) will be in contact with registered parents directly regarding provision.
- If you are unable to collect your child at 12noon, the school will remain open until 3.15pm as normal.

Arrangements while children are in school

During this period of extreme heat, we are continuing to make sure that the following measures are in place:

Learning Environment

- Lessons may be adapted to reduce physical activity
- Staff will closely monitor classroom temperatures and pupil wellbeing throughout the day
- Children will be provided with quiet and low level challenge activities in the afternoon on Friday 26th June

Outdoor Activities

- Outdoor activities will be significantly restricted
- PE lessons, sports practices and other strenuous activities will be cancelled, postponed or adapted
- Children will be encouraged to remain in shaded areas or indoors during break and will remain inside the building during lunch breaks

Hydration and Wellbeing

- Children will be encouraged to drink water frequently throughout the day
- Water refill stations will be available; all children should bring a named water bottle
- Staff will be vigilant in recognising early signs of heat-related illness

Uniform Adjustments

- Children may attend in either school uniform or PE kit, depending on which is cooler and more comfortable
- Hats must be worn outdoors



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How parents and carers can help

Please support us by ensuring your child:

- Brings a filled water bottle to school each day
- Applies sunscreen before arriving at school (and brings more if needed)
- Brings a hat for outdoor use
- Has eaten a good breakfast and is well hydrated before coming to school

Signs of heat-related illness

Please remind your child to tell a member of staff immediately if they feel unwell. Symptoms may include:

- Dizziness or fainting
- Severe headache
- Nausea or vomiting
- Unusual tiredness
- Muscle cramps
- Confusion or disorientation
- Hot, flushed skin

If a child becomes unwell during the school day, we will contact parents/carers and may ask for them to be collected.

Many thanks for your ongoing support as we do the best we can to keep children and staff safe and well in these unprecedented weather conditions!

Best wishes,

Mrs K James
Benhall Infant School

Mrs A Fitch
St Mark's C of E Junior School