



Joseph Leckie Academy

Learn Together, Lead Together

Walstead Road West, Walsall, West Midlands, WS5 4PG

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Principal: Mr A McNaughton

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Thursday 25th June 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

Further to my letter earlier this week regarding the closure of our schools due to extreme temperatures, I am writing to confirm that **the school will also remain closed on Friday.**

This decision has been taken across **The Forge Brook Trust**, and **all schools within the Trust will be closed tomorrow.**

Following a further review of the latest forecast, which shows no significant improvement in conditions, the Met Office Red Weather Warning remains in place. In addition, the CEO has visited our schools, and has identified a significant build-up of residual heat within the buildings, meaning temperatures in classrooms remain unacceptably high.

Despite all mitigation measures previously outlined, it is still not possible to provide a safe or suitable learning environment for pupils and staff. As such, we must extend the closure for one further day.

We understand that this may cause inconvenience for families. However, the safety and wellbeing of all members of our school community must remain our highest priority. This has not been an easy decision and has been taken in line with Trust-wide guidance following careful assessment of conditions across our sites.

Work will be continued to be set via our SharePoint site, available through students Microsoft 365 accounts accessed through the school website.

The forecast indicates that temperatures will begin to fall over the weekend, which is a welcome relief. We are therefore planning to **fully reopen on Monday for all pupils**, and we look forward to welcoming everyone back to school. We expect all students to have returned to full school uniform, unless they are taking part in sports day.

Sports day will continue as planned on Monday, if you have been selected, please attend in PE kit, bring water and food with you along with a cap and suncream, and your consent form if you have not yet returned it. You should go to form as usual to get your mark and then make your way to the sports hall.



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We will also be continuing with our annual 'Culture Day' which will take place on Friday 3rd July 2026.

Culture Day is an important event in our school calendar, celebrating the diversity, heritage, and traditions that make our school community unique. The day provides students with opportunities to learn about different cultures, share their own experiences and develop a greater appreciation of the world around them.

Throughout the day, students will participate in a variety of activities, including:

- Cultural and Traditional dress
- Cultural performances, including Bhangra dancing and Dhol drumming
- International music and cultural story telling
- Department led lessons exploring diverse cultural perspectives
- Cultural heritage displays representing nationalities within our school community
- Mehndi Activities
- Kabaddi demonstrations
- JLA World Cup Football Tournament
- A student Cultural fashion showcase
- Photographs with the school photographer
- A raffle and other fundraising activities

Students will also have the opportunity to enjoy a selection of foods from different cultures. Additional stalls will be available after school (3.00pm – 4.00pm), offering refreshments and treats for a small fee. Students wishing to make purchases should bring cash into school, so they can experience the treats on offer: Ice Cream, candy floss, popcorn, waffles and more (costs will range from £1.00 - £3.00).

Please note that some food products may contain allergens, including nuts, seeds and dairy. Ingredient information will be clearly displayed and we ask families to take any necessary precautions. Students will need to ensure they read the allergy information prior to purchase.

Lessons will run as normal throughout the day. Students may wear cultural or traditional clothing that respectfully represents their heritage. Cultural jewellery may be worn on the day; however the Academy cannot be held responsible for any items that are lost, misplaced, damaged or stolen. All attire must remain appropriate for a school environment. Students must wear their school lanyards and bring the correct equipment for all lessons throughout the day (including their PE kit, if they have PE on this day).



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Mobile phones should remain out of sight during the school day. Photographs may only be taken under staff supervision and must not be shared on social media if they include other staff or students.

Culture Day is one of the most anticipated events in our school calendar and provides a wonderful opportunity for students to celebrate the rich diversity on offer, promotes respect, inclusion, understanding, and creates a positive community spirit. By engaging in this event, students develop respect for others and broaden their understanding of other people's cultures and heritage, fostering an inclusive environment where everyone is valued and heard.

We hope that every student embraces the day with enthusiasm, pride and curiosity and create lasting memories with friends and staff.

Thank you for your continued understanding and support.

Yours faithfully,

Mr A McNaughton
Principal