



# Joseph Leckie Academy

*Learn Together, Lead Together*

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

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**Principal:** Mr A McNaughton

**Website:** [www.josephleckieacademy.co.uk](http://www.josephleckieacademy.co.uk)

**Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> June 2026**

**Dear Parents and Carers,**

I am writing to inform you that, due to the ongoing extreme temperatures and the MET Office's Red Weather Warning for our area, we have taken the difficult decision to close all schools across The Forge Brook Trust, for the next two days.

Joseph Leckie Academy will be closed on **Wednesday and Thursday**, and we will review the situation for **Friday**, communicating any further updates as soon as possible.

The Pride of Leckie celebrations scheduled for Thursday evening has been postponed and the new date will be communicated in due course.

This decision has not been taken lightly. We have carefully considered national guidance alongside the specific conditions within our buildings. While schools are encouraged to remain open where possible, the reality of our site presents significant challenges during periods of extreme heat.

A number of our classrooms, particularly those that are south-facing with large areas of glass, are experiencing sustained high temperatures throughout the day. Despite implementing all available measures, including the use of fans, blinds, increased ventilation, and reducing physical activity, we have been unable to bring room temperatures down to a safe and comfortable level. Unfortunately, these efforts have proven ineffective in the current conditions.

We have also had several instances of pupils becoming unwell due to the heat, which further underlines our concern.

The safety, health and wellbeing of our pupils and staff must remain our highest priority. At present, we cannot guarantee a safe or suitable learning environment within the building.

## **Learning during closure**

Work will be set for students via SharePoint which is accessed via their school email address. We strongly encourage pupils to engage with this work where possible, details will be sent via their school email. This is accessible through the student noticeboard via the quick links section on the website.

<https://josephleckieacademyco.sharepoint.com/Student%20Noticeboard/SitePages/Student%20Noticeboard.aspx>



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## Keeping children safe in the heat

While pupils remain at home, we ask that you take steps to keep them safe during the hot weather.

Please ensure your child:

- Drinks plenty of water throughout the day
- Stays out of direct sunlight during peak hours
- Remains indoors where possible during the hottest part of the day
- Wears suitable clothing if outside
- Avoids strenuous physical activity

## Water safety reminder

Hot weather can lead to increased risks around open water. We strongly advise that children do not swim in lakes, canals, or other unsupervised locations. Please reinforce this message at home.

Further guidance is available from the Royal Life Saving Society: <https://www.rlss.org.uk/water-safety-for-teenagers>

We appreciate that this decision may cause disruption to families, and we thank you for your understanding and support. However, given the current conditions and the limitations of our building, we believe this is the right course of action to protect the wellbeing of everyone in our school community.

Yours faithfully,

Mr A McNaughton

Principal