



## **School Closure FAQs**

### **What are the closure dates?**

The school will be closed on Monday 13<sup>th</sup> July to Friday 17<sup>th</sup> July

### **Why were we not informed earlier?**

We very recently received details of the scheduling of the works from the contractor. This is the earliest we have been able to let parents know.

### **Why couldn't we open the school later in September rather than close early in the summer?**

It was decided that there would be less of an impact on learning through closure at the end of the summer term rather than the start of the new academic year.

### **Is the building work essential?**

Yes. The work is taking place to further improve fire safety.

### **Is it safe for my child to be in the school at present?**

Yes. We have obtained the correct certification to ensure that the all pupils and staff are safe to be in school at present.

### **Does it have to be done this year?**

The work has already been postponed for 12 months and we are at risk of losing the funding if we don't carry out the project this summer.

### **Why does the whole school have to be closed?**

The extensive nature of the work to the roofing of the school means it would not be safe to access any part of the main school building.

### **Is it not possible to use another premises for this week?**

It is not possible to find another premises during term time that has the necessary facilities to deliver the curriculum for all of our pupils.

### **What will staff be doing during this time?**

All staff will continue to work on the days of closure. They will be undertaking staff training and development activities and planning for the next academic year.

### **What are the legal requirements for teaching days in an academic year and how is this affected by early closure for building works?**

Rush Common School is part of a multi academy trust. Therefore, Abingdon Learning Trust can determine the number of days staff are available to work. As a general rule, schools are expected to be open for 190 days. There is a DFE attendance code, which recognises the need for school closure in exceptional circumstances.

**Will this affect attendance?**

No. Pupil attendance will not be affected as the DFE has an attendance code for these circumstances.

**How will you minimise days/time lost?**

The Inset day on the Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> July will no longer take place and there will not be an early finish at the end of the Spring Term. This effectively reduces the total loss of days from 4.5 days to 3 days.

**What if I have already made plans for the inset day on 3rd July and now school is open?**

The absence will be authorised by the school as the school has made this decision after formal publication of term dates.

**Will my child be able to continue their learning at home during the school closure?**

Yes. All teachers will provide a range of online activities and work that can be completed during this week.

**Will 'House of Fun' be available this summer?**

House of Fun will still be running in the summer as the building is completely separate to the main school buildings. Secure fencing will be installed by the contractors on the playground to ensure that children attending House of Fun cannot enter the main building.

**What time will school now finish on Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> April and Friday 10<sup>th</sup> July?**

There will be no early finish time on either of these days, so school will finish at 3.00pm on both dates.