

Polling days information

As in previous occasions, the Junior School has been identified this year as a location for a polling station within the electoral ward for local government elections and for the EU referendum. We made an official request to the city council for another location to be identified so as to avoid disruption, but this has been denied on the grounds that no other suitable place can be found within the ward. You will appreciate that this obligation causes safeguarding implications that cannot be negated and therefore the governing body has taken the decision to close school on the days in question (with exceptions as outlined below). Due to the nature of our shared site and giving consideration to families with children at both schools, the Infant School has also taken the decision to close, and this will be communicated to their parents in their weekly newsletter tomorrow.

Thursday 5th May: Local elections

Because of the proximity of the first polling day to the Year 6 SATS tests, Thursday 5th May will be a normal school day for Year 6 pupils; they will be expected to come in and leave at the usual time but will take their lessons with their class teachers and LSAs in the main school building. Break and lunchtime play will take place on the Year3/4 playground. Their safety and welfare is assessed as perfectly achievable with these measures in place.

For all other year groups, school will be closed. However, we are taking the opportunity afforded us by the circumstances to hold an additional set of parent consultation meetings for Years 3-5 during the afternoon and evening, to which children are also invited to attend in order to discuss their progress and targets. These will be specific to this day only and we will not be able to provide any alternative days. Appointments will be made using the parents evening booking system, which has had the few reported faults now resolved.

In summary:

Years 3-5	School closed for lessons 1-4pm: Parent and Pupil consultations 5.30-8pm: Parent and Pupil consultations
Year 6	Normal school day but located in the main building

Thursday 23rd June: EU referendum

School will be closed to all year groups; however, this is also a scheduled secondary school 'taster' day for all Year 5 pupils at Hylands, therefore our Year 5 pupils will be expected to attend school for registration on that morning before leaving on coaches to spend the day at Hylands. They will return to school between 2.45-3pm, so we would ask Year 5 parents to plan to pick up their children at that time. In the afternoon, Year 6 teachers will offer brief parent and pupil consultation appointments if they wish to take these up, as they will not have had this opportunity on 5th May.

In summary:

Years 3, 4 and 6	School closed for lessons
Year 5	Attend school at the normal registration time, spend the day at Hylands School and return for pick up between 2.45-3pm.
Year 6	Afternoon (time to be confirmed): Parent and Pupil consultations

Reminders will be given closer to the date of each polling day. Please contact the office if you need any further clarification.

Mr R McTaggart
Headteacher