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16.09.2026

Dear Parents/Carers,

School closure tomorrow (Thursday 17 September 2026)

I am writing to inform you that, due to unforeseen staffing circumstances, we have taken the difficult decision to close The Orchard School tomorrow.

We understand the disruption and inconvenience this will cause to families, and we sincerely apologise for this. The decision has not been taken lightly, but it has been made to ensure the safety and wellbeing of our pupils and to maintain appropriate staffing and leadership capacity across the school.

We are actively exploring solutions and are working hard to ensure that the school can reopen on Friday 19 September 2026. We will review the situation throughout tomorrow and will provide a further update to all parents and carers no later than lunchtime tomorrow.

Thank you for your understanding, patience and continued support during this challenging time.

Yours sincerely,

Helen Grindulis
Chair of Governors (on behalf of the Governing Body)

Sally Giles
Executive Director, Children and Education Services
Children and Education Directorate
Sandwell Metropolitan Borough Council

