



# Gilbert Inglefield Academy

Growth, Integrity, Kindness

3 September 2025

**Subject: Emergency School Closure Due to Severe Flooding**

Dear Parents and Carers,

I am writing to you with deep regret and reluctance to inform you of an immediate school closure. Following relentless heavy rainfall over a very short period of time, our school has suffered extensive and unprecedented flooding. The damage is significant, and the impact on our learning environment is devastating. An emergency team will assess and secure the site over the next few days, with the intention of re-opening to staff and learners on Monday 8<sup>th</sup> September 2025.

Several classrooms and communal areas have been inundated, with water compromising both the structure and safety of the site. Our electrical systems have been shut down, and both our phone lines and Wi-Fi are non-operational. After consulting with the governing body and conducting a full site survey, it is clear that the school is not safe to occupy.

We are gravely concerned by the scale of disruption this causes to our learners, families, and staff. We know this is far from ideal and particularly unsettling at the beginning of a new academic year: we are truly sorry. Further heavy rain is forecast, and the risk to safety remains high.

We are working urgently to assess the damage, explore remote learning options, and plan for recovery. We will keep you informed with regular updates and aim to reopen as soon as it is safe and viable to do so.

Thank you for your understanding, patience, and support during this incredibly difficult time.

Warm regards,

Catrin O'Callaghan  
Headteacher

Phill Manson  
Chair of Governors

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