



Salesian School

Enlightening minds, uplifting hearts

Headteacher: Mr J Kibble

Guildford Road, Chertsey, Surrey KT16 9LU

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Dear All,

Peace be with you!

I hope all is going well on the home front. It's been very quiet here at school this week with only one student in and just for the morning, both yesterday and today. Given this we have made plans to scale back further on our provision from next week, Monday 30th March. Whilst all of our families have now found ways of looking after their children safely at home, we appreciate that there will still be days when we will need to provide childcare for those families that qualify, particularly for the children of parents who work for the NHS and other key sectors who are being asked to take on additional work.

Where this is the case we would ask that you contact the school via attendance@salesian.surrey.sch.uk before 2pm the day before the provision is required and we will ensure that staff are available to look after your child. Again, this provision should continue to be a last resort option and wherever it can be done safely, childcare should happen at home.

Please note that the school canteen has now shut and any student coming to school will need to bring a packed lunch – please let us know in advance if your child usually receives free school meals so we can provide something for them.

Your support and understanding with the fact that the school is, to all intents and purposes, closed are much appreciated. We have however received a number of calls from parents asking to come in and pick up students' belongings that have been left behind. I am afraid that this is not now going to be possible until the school reopens. This is due to most buildings on the premises at both the school and college sites have now been deep cleaned and sealed off and that we will now only have two members of staff present on site at any time. I apologise for any inconvenience this causes.

For those of you who have children in Year 6 who are hoping to transfer to Salesian in September, please note that the admissions system has now also closed for the period of the school closure. We appreciate that this will be a further stress for those families who are still yet to secure a place with us for September but until the wider system starts up again there can be no movement on our waiting list. We will be in touch as soon as things start moving again and places become available. Please share this information with anyone else you know who is waiting for news on a place and isn't already a Salesian parent.

One of the many challenges currently facing families is how to deal with a bereavement at a time when many of the normal avenues of support are not functioning. Quite apart from the current extraordinary situation, in a community as large as ours, we expect to be supporting a number of families with bereavement at any one time. Whilst it will be no substitute for what we usually offer, later today there will be additional resources uploaded to the [Chaplaincy](#) page of our website aimed at supporting families in this situation.

On a lighter note, well done to all of you who have been getting in touch regarding the creative approaches you have been taking to keep the learning going through the closure. There are a whole host of new and free resources coming online every day and we are currently working on a system to alert you to the ones which we think are most worthwhile. Please keep an eye on the [Resources](#) section of our Home Learning page for further details.

We have been talking with school leaders today about how we ensure that we know every single family in our school community is ok, short of making 1,600 separate telephone calls! I hope, if it hasn't already happened, that in the coming days, every family will have had some form of direct contact with a member of staff. However, given the logistics of this, please don't hesitate to contact us first if there is a problem. As I have said before, our number one concern continues to be the well-being of the children; if there is anything we need to know in order to better secure this, please get in touch with one of those whose details can be found on the [Contacts](#) page of the website.



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We shall be in touch again at the start of next week with a reflection on our theme for the week (please keep praying with the children) and any other developments. In the meantime, best wishes for a happy weekend, I hope you manage to create a bit of variety and enjoy doing something different to what has been going on all week – there certainly shouldn't be any school work for the children!

With best wishes and prayers from all the staff.

God bless,

James Kibble