



All Hallows RC High School

Specialising in Business, Enterprise & Sports

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Website: www.allhallowssalford.com

Headteacher: Mrs A. Cavanagh

18 March 2020

Dear Parent/Carer,

This letter was due to be sent yesterday evening. Please read. There will be further communication today and tomorrow following yesterday's announcement of school closures for most children.

Thank you for your support and co-operation over the last week or so. So far we have been able to run normal school days, and pupils and staff have ensured that it has been 'business as usual'. As I write this letter, it is our intention to continue to keep school open for all year groups.

We are, however, all experiencing unprecedented times with the spread of Covid-19 across the world and all organisations are looking at their contingency plans. Our overwhelming priority is the continued health and well-being of all within our school community and their families. At the same time we want to continue in providing education as best we can in the circumstances with a particular focus on doing everything we can to ensure Year 11 are not disadvantaged in any way.

Within school we have a number of measures in place but one of the contingencies we have to plan for is a school closure as a result of infection, high staff absence or government instruction. If this were to happen the main vehicle for provision of the curriculum, assessment of work and communication with teachers will be [google classroom](#); and other identified websites commonly used by teacher and pupils at All Hallows. Additionally, physical work packs will be sent home with pupils. Further information regarding work to be completed at home is attached to this letter.

A school closure should, therefore, mean that pupils can continue with their education with only minimum disruption. We have also put in place a plan for pastoral care to continue during a closure and have ensured that parents and carers will be able to contact school via email.

We have reviewed our calendar of events and, have decided to postpone the Y8 Options Event which was due to take place next Thursday.

Like all schools we have a well-established exam contingency plan and we are following official guidance from JCQ, OfQual and exam boards. An exam contingency, nationally has been scheduled for June 24th - this remains to be the case. Any decisions about the summer exam schedule will be taken at a national level to ensure fairness for all candidates. At present all planned controlled assessments and practical exams that are scheduled to take place in the coming weeks are planned to take place as normal.

Any school closure will be communicated via the usual means of text and email, supported by social media. We will also provide information on our website and you can use the general email address for all enquiries as normal. Please be reassured that all decisions regarding this matter will be taken in the best interest of the health and well-being of children and the wider school community.

Although the situation is hard to predict, we are well prepared for various eventualities and we want to support parents, carers and families as best we can. We understand that this is a very worrying and uncertain time and the situation may develop in unexpected ways. Whatever happens we want you to know that we are here as a support for our pupils and their families, whether or not the school is closed. We know that for many families the emerging situation is already placing a strain on income, employment and access to support and resources - we will try to help in any way we can please just contact us through the usual channels.

We are also very sensitive to the extra burden faced by parents and carers who are in key frontline services, or families where underlying health conditions present an additional risk. At this challenging time it is important that we fall back on our sense of Catholic community by caring for one another and looking out for the most vulnerable. We certainly do not wish to add to the stress that many of you will be experiencing and will take this into account in any decision we make.

We have used form time and assemblies to reinforce key messages around personal hygiene, hand washing and 'catching, killing and binning' coughs and sneezes. We will continue to do this. This short video may be of interest:

<https://youtube.be/bQCP7waTRWU>

You can find all you need to know about preventing the spread of the virus and what to do if you think you or your child might be infected here:

<https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/>

As a reminder, the most up-to-date advice from the government/Public Health England is that anyone displaying:-

- a fever/high temperature (37.8 degrees or above), and/or
- a new continuous cough

should self isolate for 14 days.

Also, anyone living in their household should also self isolate for 14 days.

People with underlying health issues (those who are medically advised to have the flu jab) are also advised to socially distance themselves.

Children who have been advised to self isolate because of infected family members will be coded in the registers as "Y" – which means that their attendance is not required due to exceptional circumstances.

We totally understand that some parents/carers will have concerns about their children who have underlying health issues. We are encouraging you to make the judgement about your child as you know your child best and this decision is yours to make. Please let school know that you have chosen to self isolate.

Please continue to look after yourselves and your families. Difficult though these times may be, our staff are motivated by caring for and serving our young people and families. Should you require any additional advice or support please do get in touch.

Yours sincerely



A Cavanagh
Head Teacher

Work Provided for Pupils
(in case of school closure)

Work Packs

Should the government decide to close all schools, All Hallows pupils will bring a work pack home, which will contain enough work in every different subject for at least a week. These work packs should be used as a break from online work.

Google Classroom

All teachers will set work for their classes online using [google classroom](#). This will be the main source of work should schools close. Teachers can set work and monitor whether or not it has been completed, and they can also (in many cases) assess it.

All children have accessed [google classroom](#) on many occasions, and so know how to log in. For your information, pupils log in on the Google homepage using firstname.surname@allhallowsrc.co.uk.

Online Resources

Pupils can also access other learning and revision materials online. Teachers are likely to direct pupils to use, for example:-

Maths – mathswatch

Science – tassomai

All subjects – seneca

Keeping in Touch

In the event of a school closure, we will maintain a skeleton staff at All Hallows who will be able to assist with any urgent worries or problems.

The parents of those pupils who receive intensive extra support in school (for particular SEN reasons, emotional and mental health support, children's service support etc.) will receive regular phone calls in order to check in with you, to ensure that all are ok and to offer support where possible.

If you wish to contact school (during term time closure) because you are experiencing difficulties eg financial, isolation, adult-child relations, or are worried about your child you can do so by phoning 0161 921 1900 or by emailing studentservices@allhallowsrc.co.uk. This email will be accessed by a staff member on every school day. If you are worried about your child or another All Hallows child or family, you can share your worries with us via the contact details above.

Other numbers to contact are listed below:-

Health

Local Authority Advice regarding Corona Virus – regularly updated:

<https://www.salford.gov.uk/people-communities-and-local-information/coronavirus/>

NHS Helpline – 101

<https://www.nhs.uk/using-the-nhs/nhs-services/urgent-and-emergency-care/nhs-111/>

Salford Royal – 0161 789 7373

Local Area Advice / Support Centre

Broughton Hub / Pendleton Gateway / Swinton Gateway / Walkden Gateway

Central Reception for all Gateway Centres – 0161 793 2500

Education

All Hallows RC High School

Twitter: @AllHallowsRC

School Email: studentservices@allhallowsrc.co.uk
allhallows@salford.gov.uk

Other

Childline www.childline.org.uk Call: 0800 111

Young Minds www.youngminds.org.uk

Papyrus www.papyrus-uk.org Hopeline Call: 0800 068 4141

The Mix www.themix.org.uk Call: 0800 808 4994

Kooth www.kooth.com

Samaritans www.samaritans.org Call: 116 123

Elefriends www.elefriends.org.uk

UK Safer Internet Café – advice to keep yourself safe online

Children's Social Care 01254 666 400

Spending prolonged periods of time with family, especially if coupled up together whilst self isolating can be stressful for some, and we wish to support you our All Hallows family as best we can.