



Re: School Closure Arrangements

Dear Parents & Guardians

As you are doubtless aware, as of Monday 23rd March, all academies and schools in England will be **closed until further notice**. We are writing to provide you with the best information that we have available at present. Further updates will be provided as and when we are able. If you wish to read the statement from the Secretary of State for Education, Gavin Williamson, it can be found here: <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/schools-colleges-and-early-years-settings-to-close>

Home Study Work

All pupils should undertake the remote learning that is provided for them through our **Show My Homework** platform. Staff will be doing their utmost to set work that is accessible, beneficial and, wherever possible, enjoyable. We have put together bespoke Home Study Timetables for each Key Stage in order to try to make Home Study as engaging and manageable as possible. We understand that the forthcoming weeks and months are going to be extremely challenging for the whole country, particularly for children and their parents, we sincerely hope that this remote provision will go some way in order to give you some structure and assistance whilst you home-isolate, self-isolate and social distance.

If you have any issues with your child's email address, Show My Homework or logins for platforms such as MathsWatch, our Technical team can be contacted during traditional school hours at homesupport@stj.kent.sch.uk. Please do not hesitate to get in touch with them if you have an issue of this nature.

Home Study Timetable – Years 7 and 8

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
English	Maths	History/Geography	Maths	History/Geography
Science	RE	English	Science	RE
Spanish	DT / Food Tech	PE	Art	Music
		ICT		

Key
Core Subjects
Foundation Subjects



Home Study Timetable – Year 9

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
English	Maths	History/Geography	Maths	History/Geography
Science	RE	English	Science	RE
PE	KS3 Foundation A	KS4 Option E	KS3 Foundation B	KS4 Option D

Key
Core Subjects
Foundation Options
KS4 Options

Home Study Timetable – Years 10 and 11

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
English	Maths	History/Geography	Maths	History/Geography
Science	RE	English	Science	RE
PE	KS4 Option A	KS4 Option E (Year 10 only)	KS4 Option A	KS4 Option B
KS4 Option B		KS4 Option C (Year 11 only)		KS4 Option C (Year 11 only)
				KS4 Option D (Year 10 only)

Key
Core Subjects
KS4 Options

Home Study Timetable – Years 12 and 13

Pupils are expected to follow their normal timetable when completing work. For example, if a student has A level English and A level Psychology lessons on a Tuesday, they should focus their study efforts on these subjects on any given Tuesday whilst the school is closed.

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Submission and Marking of Student Work

Students will be given clear instruction, via Show My Homework, regarding submission expectations of any work that has been set. Our staff, outside of the originally planned Easter break, will still be aiming to provide appropriate feedback to pupils to support with their progress.

Examinations

I am sure that you are aware by now the government have announced that public examinations will not take place this academic year, although they have said that pupils will be awarded the grades that they deserve. We recognise that this is a considerable blow to our pupils who have worked so hard in preparation for public examinations. You have my word that, as a school, we will be doing everything in our powers to ensure that the tremendous progress that our examination cohorts have made since being at St John's, is recognised by the examination boards this summer.

Whilst the government, alongside the examination boards, finalise their plans on this matter, we recommend that all pupils, who were due to finish public examination courses this year, concentrate their efforts on completing their coursework to the best of their ability, as this still might be required to be sent off for external marking.

Key Worker Provision

Many thanks to those who responded to my message yesterday regarding the provision for supporting the children of Key Workers and those students with an Educational Health Care Plan (EHCP). I do believe that we now know which pupils are due in school on Monday to be supervised.

Please note that we will only be able to make provision for pupils who fall into these two criteria. There can unfortunately be no exceptions.

Additionally, it is clear from the latest medical advice, that the best way to battle this pandemic is through **self-isolation, household isolation and social distancing**. **As such, I cannot stress enough that it is everyone's civic duty to keep children at home at these times if at all possible.**

Safeguarding and other urgent concerns

There may be a need for parents/carers or pupils to urgently contact senior staff about safeguarding issues or other pressing matters during the period of school closure. If you know the school email address of the specific member of staff, please email them directly, otherwise contact the school office via office@stj.kent.sch.uk as staff will be monitoring this email address regularly throughout the traditional working week.

We also know that, during these unprecedented times, there may well be people who will need additional support that the school is unable to provide. Below is a list of outside agencies that may be of benefit to you.

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- Chat health text service – 07520618850 – text only service that is monitored Monday to Friday 9am to 5pm by School Health Service Kent



St. John's Catholic
Comprehensive School

- Childline – 08001111 – www.childline.org.uk
- Children's and young people's mental health service – 03001234496 – Providing emotional and mental health support for children and young people.
- Citizen's Advice Bureau – 03003309001
- Dartford Early Help – 03000421542
- Gravesham Early Help – 03000413991
- Kent safeguarding Children's board, The front door team – 03000411111
- Kooth – www.kooth.com – Free, safe and anonymous online support for young people, online until 10pm.
- Medway social care services – 01634 334466
- National Self-harm Network – 0800622600 – 7pm to 11pm
- NSPCC – 0808800500
- Out of hours emergency line Kent and Medway – 03000419191
- Samaritans – 0845790909 – www.samaritans.org 24 hours a day, 7 days a week
- Young Minds - 02070895050 – www.youngminds.org.uk

We regret very much having to put these arrangements in place and we thank you for your understanding and forbearance. We will do our very best to continue to support you remotely as best we can.

Our whole community is in our thoughts and prayers. We hope you and your families are able to stay safe and well during this challenging period of time, and we look forward very much to when St John's can be reunited and return to normal.

Yours sincerely

Matt Barron
Headteacher

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Tel: 01474 534718

Email: office@stj.kent.sch.uk

Address St John's Catholic Comprehensive School
Rochester Road, Gravesend, Kent, DA12 2JW