

St. Gerard's Catholic Primary and Nursery School



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Headteacher – Mr K. Landrum – BEd (Hons) NPQH

Website: <http://st-gerards.halton.sch.uk>

Coronavirus Update – School Closures

Guidance for schools remaining open from Monday was posted in the early hours this morning. The guidance is clear “if children can stay safely at home, they should.” My view as your Headteacher, based on the guidance is that all parents should endeavour to keep their children at home safely. The fewer children making the journey to school, and the fewer children in educational settings, the lower the risk that the virus can spread across the community. Outside of school, parents should also do everything they can to ensure children are not mixing socially in a way that can continue to spread the virus.

If your work is critical to the COVID-19 response or you work in one of the critical sectors, our school staff are committed to providing childcare whilst you are at work. Furthermore we will take all practical steps to keep our vulnerable children safe and we will endeavour to provide care, when and if it is needed. The Government has directed that the school will be open for childcare and not for teaching the children.

All other children will need to stay at home, so we ask that you do not send your child into school from Monday onwards. Please note this is a national closure as you will have heard in the news so while it is a challenging situation we are not alone.

What we will continue doing while your child is at home.

Your child's learning is of course important to us. All children will be coming home today with a pack of learning challenges that have been prepared by their Class Teacher. Inside their wallet you will find a daily; Literacy, Maths, Science, Religious Education, History and Geography lesson for your child to complete at home. In addition to this we have uploaded to our school website, a number of interactive resources if you have the access to the internet.

We have created email address for you to use in order to contact your child's Class Teacher if you want clarity or help with the work set. Please note Teachers will only respond between 8.30am – 4pm. Please email them rather than ring the School Office. We will keep the School Office open for urgent messages and the Office will ask you to email the Teachers if necessary.

Nursery	Mrs Tickle	:	nursery@stgerardswidnes.co.uk
Reception	Mr Naylor	:	reception@stgerardswidnes.co.uk
Year 1	Miss Sanders	:	class1@stgerardswidnes.co.uk
Year 2	Mrs Johnson	:	class2@stgerardswidnes.co.uk
Year 3	Miss Rodgers	:	class3@stgerardswidnes.co.uk
Year 4	Miss Wells	:	class4@stgerardswidnes.co.uk
Year 5	Miss Roberts	:	class5@stgerardswidnes.co.uk
Year 6	Mr McCabe	:	class6@stgerardswidnes.co.uk
Nurture	Mrs Kent	:	nurture@stgerardswidnes.co.uk

A separate letter will be going out with regards to Free school Meals and Universal Infant Free School Meals.

The last week has probably been one of the most tensed times in my eleven years of Headteacher at St Gerard's. I have been grateful for the comforting words and emails that we have received from parents and carers over the past week as well as the support and hard work of all of our staff who have conducted themselves in a professional and caring manner.

It is going to be a strange few months for everyone especially as we have no idea what will happen.

We will do our best to keep you up to date with information as we receive it and please keep in touch with me through my email (head.stgerards@halton.gov.uk.)

Finally as we close the doors to our wonderful school today many of us will have a tear in our eye (I already have one as I am writing this letter.) Who knows when we will re-open?

We will remain strong for each other and most importantly for our wonderful children, many of whom have no understanding as to what is happening.

Please remember everyone in your prayers over the next few weeks. Look after each other and be there for each other.

God Bless.

Mr. K Landrum
Headteacher