



Saturday, 16th July 2022

Ref: School Closure – Monday, 18th and Tuesday, 19th July

Dear Parents, Carers and Families,

I am writing to inform you that, after consulting the St Ralph Sherwin CMAT Executive Team and the local governing body, St Alban's Catholic Voluntary Academy **will be closed** on Monday, 18th July and Tuesday, 19th July due to the predicted extreme weather expected on Monday and Tuesday next week.

Following the updated 'RED' alert for predicted extreme weather by the Met Office and The Level 4 National Heat Health Warning issued by the government yesterday, we want to make sure that we do everything we can to ensure pupils and their families are safe and remain in good health during this period. This level of alert is used when a heatwave is so severe and/or prolonged that its effects extend outside the health and social care system. At this level, illness may occur among the fit and healthy, and not just in high-risk groups.

You will have heard that some schools in the area are closing and some are not. Among many other reasons for the closure, our situation at St Alban's is unique in that we have no additional ventilation systems such as air conditioning in any area of the academy. If we followed the guidance which advises closing windows and blinds, this would have a significant negative impact on temperatures in all areas of the academy and could present a serious risk to health to pupils and staff. Temperature checks even yesterday measured high in almost all areas of the school, even with mitigating factors in place.

Staying Safe

While school is closed, please ensure you protect your child by keeping air flowing wherever possible, keeping children hydrated, avoiding vigorous physical activity, encouraging children to wear loose, light coloured clothing and sunhats with wide brims, to use sunscreen, provide them with plenty of water and, if outdoors, staying in the shade as much as possible. Please ensure you keep children safe from other risks such as swimming or bathing in open water to cool off and never leave anyone in a closed, parked vehicle, especially infants, young children or animals. You can use this further advice from the Met Office to stay safe: <https://www.metoffice.gov.uk/weather/warnings-and-advice/seasonal-advice/health-wellbeing/tips-for-keeping-older-people-cool>

School Dinners

We know that some pupils, especially from the early years, Key Stage 1 and those entitled to free school meals may still require lunch on Monday and Tuesday. Please complete this short form to let us know if you require a 'grab bag', which you can collect from the junior hall between 10:30 and 11:30 on Monday and Tuesday morning:

<https://forms.office.com/r/0b9cVrz2Kz>



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St. Alban's Catholic Voluntary Academy
Newstead Avenue, Chaddesden, Derby, DE216NU
Enquiries@dsa.srscmat.co.uk
Company Number 7937154



**St Ralph
Sherwin**
Catholic Multi Academy Trust



School Work

You will receive information about school work and ideas for activities to complete at home from your child's class teacher through Class Dojo on Monday and Tuesday morning. Your child will be able to complete this work at home during the school closure. We appreciate that each family's situation is different so please do not feel any pressure about this work. We just want to ensure that your child has the opportunity to continue with their learning whilst away from school. If you have any concerns about your child's work, please contact your child's class teacher through Class Dojo on Monday or Tuesday.

Supporting You

We have spoken to First Friends leaders this morning and they are currently planning to continue operating a full service over the coming week. Please contact First Friends directly if you need their support with any childcare: info@firstfriends-nurseries.co.uk

If you feel you require any other support on Monday and Tuesday, please contact the school office using enquiries@dsa.srscmat.co.uk and we will do whatever we can to help you.

I would like to take this opportunity to apologise for any inconvenience this may cause you, your child and your family and to thank you for the support you are giving to ensure your child, your family, our staff and our community remain safe and well in the coming week.

With best wishes,

T Brogan

S Olivier

Mr T Brogan

Mr S Olivier

Headteacher

Chair of Governors