



St John Bosco Catholic Primary School, Sunderland
School Closure / Temporary Arrangements FAQ
Updated 6.9.23

What is the building material and why is it an issue?

The building material is RAAC (Reinforced Autoclaved Aerated Concrete). RAAC is a lightweight form of concrete. This material needs to be managed effectively and monitored by a RAAC specialist to ensure buildings remain safe. This concern has occurred at St. John Bosco Primary School as our building is of a certain age (built in the early 1960s)

Is this just happening to St. John Bosco Primary School?

Parents may have also seen reports in the media that nationally, public buildings such as schools and hospitals that contain RAAC, are being reviewed at present. More than 150 schools in England have been identified as having this type of potentially dangerous concrete.

Can my child enter the school building to collect items belonging to them?

At this present moment, the school building is closed to all pupils and staff. It would not be possible for children to enter to collect items belonging to them

Why has temporary accommodation such as portacabins not been made available?

Whilst this is a temporary solution in some instances, it takes time to source and transport enough mobile units for a whole school community. This temporary accommodation then needs access to utilities such as power, water and sewerage which will take a number of weeks to organise.

Is there provision for Key Worker children?

The guidance issued by the Government during the Covid-19 pandemic does not apply in this instance. The school building is closed for health and safety reasons and cannot be accessed until it is made safe.

When will my child be able to return to face-to-face learning?

At present, we are exploring a number of options for our pupils to return to face-to-face learning. A plan is being developed for the immediate future, to cover the next few weeks. We are currently working with our partners to make an action plan so that all pupils at St John Bosco can return to face-to-face learning as soon as possible.

What can parents do if they have a safeguarding concern?

While the school building is temporarily closed, if you have a safeguarding concern about a pupil, please contact the main school office at office@stjohnboscosunderland.org.uk or our telephone number will be diverted so will be answered during school times. One of our Designated Safeguarding Leads will be in touch as soon as possible.

'If your safeguarding concern is urgent, please contact together for children



Children's Safeguarding on **0191 561 7007**. Please note, this number should only be used during the following hours: Monday to Thursday, 8.30am to 5.15pm and Friday, 8.30am to 4.45pm.

If you are ringing out of hours (evenings and weekends) please contact our Emergency Duty Team on **0191 520 5560**.'

What provision will there be if my child has an Educational Health and Care Plan and there is a concern I need to discuss?

Please email our school office at office@stjohnboscosunderland.org.uk and mark your email for the attention of our SENDCo, Mrs G.Gray Your queries will then be forwarded to her, and she will be in touch as soon as possible.

My child is entitled to free school meals. Will these be provided whilst the school is temporarily closed?

Parents whose children are entitled to free school meals will continue to receive a free meal.

When will I receive further updates and information?

Further newsletters finalising our plans for face-to-face education for St John Bosco provision will be posted on our school website and social media pages daily.

Will my child be taught by staff they do not know?

No. Pupils will remain in their year groups with their class teacher from St. John Bosco. They will not be educated by members of staff from any other school.

(Years 1 – 6) Can I take my child straight to Gabriel House at St Anthony's to be registered there?

No. All pupils must be dropped off and collected from St John Bosco school for safeguarding reasons, unless school staff have contacted you in relation to a sick child, for example.

(Nursery & Reception) Can I take my child to English Martyrs' to be registered there?

If you prefer to take your child directly to English Martyrs, Mrs Adams, Miss Mills will be waiting to welcome your child, however, you must have communicated this to us already. If you would like your child to travel on the bus to English Martyrs, you must also let us know so we can make adequate provision for this. This will then be the set arrangements for your child. We would appreciate parents adhering to these arrangements due to bus numbers etc.

What happens if we are late for school that morning and miss the coach?

Parents will need to ring our school staff on 0191 536 8090 which is being diverted currently and take their child to the alternative site where they will be met by a member of St. John Bosco school staff.

Will breakfast club and after-school clubs run as normal?

No, unfortunately in the short-term, due to the lack of site and these exceptional circumstances, we will be unable to deliver these at this stage, but we will investigate and link in and with the local Authority to try to support our working parents in the coming weeks.



What happens if my child is ill and needs to be collected from the school they are temporarily being educated at?

St. John Bosco staff will phone parents and ask them to pick up their child from their allocated school site. We will continue to work alongside you to provide the best possible care for your child.

Do I ring English Martyrs' or Gabriel House / St Anthony's office to speak to St. John Bosco staff about my child?

No. Please ring our number on **0191 5368090** and St John Bosco school staff will arrange to speak to you.

This number will be manned during school hours.

You can also always email us at the main St John Bosco address as this is being closely monitored. **office@stjohnboscosunderland.org.uk**

What happens if my children are split across 2 different locations?

All pupils will be registered, dropped off and collected from St. John Bosco so you do not need to worry about different drop off times. We will still be using our central office email address **office@stjohnboscosunderland.org.uk** and our school telephone number **0191 5368090** so parents can contact St. John Bosco staff directly. SLT will always be visible at drop off times so you can continue to share information as we have always done at pick up and drop off times, just please be mindful and patient at these busy times.

Does my child still wear their uniform?

Yes. St. John Bosco pupils still need to wear their full uniform.

Will PE still be taught?

Yes. PE lessons will still be taught. Therefore, children will need to wear their pe uniform on the pre-arranged days as we will try our absolute best to maintain this, if this needs to change we will inform you.

PE days

Monday: Nursery, Reception. Years 5 & 6.

Tuesday: Years 1, 2, 3, 4.

Will my child still access music lessons?

We are exploring various options for these extracurricular activities to go ahead and will update parents as soon as we can.

Will the Y4 swimming lessons be cancelled?

No, we are hopeful we will continue to be able to get the Year 4 children to their swimming lessons as normal.

What will my child do for lunch?



We will be able to serve pupils hot school meals at English Martyrs. Children will continue to choose what they would like from the Bishop Chadwick Kitchen menu. Payments are via ParentPay.

At this current stage in the plans children on the Gabriel House site will be provided with a packed lunch, we are exploring all options to provide children with a hot meal in the future.

(EYFS) English Martyrs' Catholic Primary School

Address: 87 Redcar Rd,
Sunderland
SR5 5PA



(Years 1 – 6) Gabriel House at St Anthony's Girls' Catholic Academy

Address: Thornhill Terrace
Sunderland
SR2 7JN

