

18 March 2020

To Sha'arei Tsedek members

The coronavirus pandemic has led to the kind of situation none of us have ever experienced.

In light of the advice of Public Health England and the Government we are suspending all synagogue activities save for Alonim which will close on Friday to avoid all unnecessary social contact. We do this with the greatest of regret but feel that we have no option in the interests of our community.

Our Shabbat services

Together with other synagogues and places of worship, we will no longer be holding services in our building. Please join us online at 10:30 am this coming Shabbat morning. We also hope to 'see' you this Friday night at 6:00 pm as we light candles and make kiddush, to welcome in this Shabbat. You can connect via our Facebook page.

Education

We will be writing separately to all those with children attending either Alonim, Religion School or the B'nei Mitzvah Programme.

Alonim Kindergarten

Alonim will be closed from Friday in line with this afternoon's announcement.

Religion School

Religion School is closed until further notice.

B'nei Mitzvah Programme

We are suspending Friday B'nei Mitzvah class with immediate effect. Our educational work with young people in our programme continues, however, and we will be in touch very soon with details for each young person. We are also looking at options for the B'nei Mitzvah celebrations scheduled to take place in April, May and June of this year. If this affects your family, we will be speaking with you, if we haven't done so already.

Our Social Activities and Educational Programmes

We need to connect now more than ever. We are building a programme of learning opportunities to stimulate, inspire and entertain you, more information in the coming days.

Unfortunately, we have had to cancel all our regular face-to-face activities including Bridge, Tai Chi, Lunch & Chat, Book club and Dementia Club.

Staying connected

We want to do all we can as a community to reduce loneliness, isolation and boredom. If you are at home and you would like to be part of our team, please click [here](#) to learn about becoming a Sha'arei Tsedek buddy. We aim for our buddies to be in touch with everyone who has to stay at home.

We are doing all we can to identify anyone who is especially vulnerable in our community. We hope we know who these people are, but if you know of someone you are worried about, please get in touch.

Please rest assured that no matter what your concern or question, our dedicated staff, Rabbinic Team and Council are here for you. Please don't hesitate to contact any of us either via our website, our Facebook page, on Twitter, by email to info@shaarei-tsedek.org.uk or by calling 020 8445 3400.

These are fast changing times. We are reviewing our arrangements every day, and we will do all we can to stay in touch with you.

In the meantime on behalf of everyone at Sha'arei Tsedek can we wish you and all your loved ones well at this time.

Richard Woolf
Chair