

St Wilfrid's Catholic School

St Wilfrid's Way, Old Horsham Road, Crawley, West Sussex RH11 8PG
Tel: 01293 421421 Fax: 01293 421429 Email: office@stwilfrids.com
www.stwilfrids.com  [@stwilfridschool](https://twitter.com/stwilfridschool)



Headteacher: Michael Ferry BEd (Hons) MA NPQH

Diocese of Arundel & Brighton and West Sussex County Council

24 November 2020

Dear Parent/Carer

Sleep Out at Home/Fundraising Christmas Jumper Day

It is at this time of year that we normally are advertising our Christmas Raffle, Christmas Market and Sixth Form Sleep Out as fundraisers for our school charities. Unfortunately this year, due to the pandemic we are unable to do these events.

As an alternative we are running a School Sleep Out at Home and our annual Non-School Uniform/Christmas Jumper day on Thursday 17th December 2020.

Sleep Out At Home

As you will be aware, as part of raising awareness of homelessness in Crawley, we hold an annual Sleep Out for our Sixth Form students who sleep out for the night within the school grounds on the night before the last day of term.

So as an alternative we would like to do a Whole School Sleep out at Home which would mean that students can spend the night anywhere at home except from the comfort of their own bed. This could be in the garden if it is safe or they can choose the kitchen floor, garage or anywhere that would work best for them. This is open to all families so please feel free to take part.

The School Sleep out at Home will take place on Thursday 17th December ideally from 1900 to 0700hrs. There should be no luxuries allowed apart from a sleeping bag and cardboard so that they experience first-hand what it is like to sleep "rough". Students can upload photos onto social media with the hashtag #stwilfridsschoolsleepoutathome2020. We know that sleeping out for one night is only a tiny glimpse of the discomfort, vulnerability, cold and sleep deprivation affecting those we try and look after day in and day out. We believe that anything which raises the profile of homelessness, and raises understanding and funds for those blighted by it is a good thing.

Crawley Open House is a local independent charity (Charity No. 1048919) who have served the homeless and disadvantaged of the area for over 25 years. For obvious reasons their donated income is down at the moment, and in order to keep providing accommodation, care and services we need to raise money in different ways. We hope that this sleepout will raise a great amount of vital funding towards their core costs at this difficult time for all charities.

We have set up a Just Giving page, [St Wilfrid's Sleep Out at Home](#), and whilst we are not asking for students to pay to take part in the Sleep Out at Home, please feel free to make a donation via the page to support this charity.

£2 Non-School Uniform/Christmas Jumper Day

On Thursday 17th December all staff and students will be able to wear Christmas Jumpers along with non-school uniform in support of our five house charities, Crawley Open House, Friends of Embark, St Catherine's Hospice, The Mark Lay Foundation and Chestnut House. Please note that "Onesies" are not allowed!

To take part each student and staff member will need to pay £2. This year we can only accept online payments so please pay £2 via [ParentPay](#) by Monday 14th December 2020.

Please do not hesitate to get in touch should you require any further information.

Yours sincerely

Sarah Minnis
Fundraising Manager