

SANTA DASH 2026

Event Information

This fun event for all the family is being organised to raise much needed funds for St Raphael's Hospice. St Raphael's is your local community hospice in Sutton and Merton. We provide specialist care and support to people who are living with life limiting illnesses and their families.

As a charity, our services are free to everyone referred to us because of the generosity of past supporters. The Hospice needs £7 million a year, relying heavily on public donations, legacies and fundraising to keep going. Thanks to the generosity of the public, we are able to make an enormous difference to the lives of 1,000 terminally ill patients every year. We only receive about 25% of our costs from the NHS and the remainder, around £5 Million per year, we need to raise ourselves. Thank you very much for your support!

Please find more information below and in the FAQs regarding the 2026 Santa Dash:

Date:

Sunday 13th December 2026

Time:

The 5km route will start promptly at 11am with the 1.2km route starting shortly afterwards. Registration opens at 10am.

Location:

Nonsuch Mansion, Nonsuch Park, Cheam, SM3 8AL.

Entry for the Santa Dash is via the Cheam Gate on Ewell Road, Cheam Village. Once in the park you will be able to follow the signs to the starting point which will be at the front of the Mansion House, by the Café.

Distances:

We have 2 distances – the usual 5km and 1.2km. Participants can run, jog, skip or walk either of the routes. It is not a race and will not be timed.

Medical provision:

There will be trained and professional medics at the Santa Dash. One medic will be stationed at the Mansion House, and the other will provide mobile cover around the route. If you require medical assistance during the dash, please contact the medics directly on: 07939 079051 or find a marshal who will be able to help.

Completing the dash – No Santa left behind!:

Once you have completed your dash, you **must sign** back in to receive your medal. Your safety is our priority, and we may think you are still out on the course lost or injured. This is very important as your emergency contact will be contacted if you have not done so. Every Santa must be accounted for.

Festive Treats & Entertainment:

This year we will welcome Radio St Helier to provide our entertainment for all the Santas and their helpers. There will be tasty treats, some fine winter warming drink and a raffle for everyone to enjoy.

Sponsorship:

Your support in this way is what will enable us to continue providing exceptional hospice care every day. Your entry fee covers the cost of running the event and your sponsorship helps provide our clinical services, so please consider raising as much as you can or kindly making an additional donation to help our patients and their families this Christmas.

Please consider raising as much sponsorship as you can by creating a sponsorship page via the booking website or kindly making an additional donation, which you can do via our website - www.straphaels.org.uk/donate. If you are donating this way, please make sure to mention Santa Dash 2026 and the name of the Dasher if you are sponsoring someone specifically in the notes section.

We understand that Christmas is a busy time for everyone so we really do appreciate your support.

Santa's who have kindly collected donations and sponsorship over £75 by noon on Thursday 18th December will be entered into a free prize draw with a chance to win a festive hamper!

Good luck with your training and fundraising.

We look forward to seeing you there!

The St Raphael's Fundraising Team

Email: supportercare@straphaels.org.uk

Phone: 020 8254 2450

Frequently Asked Questions

Where and when do I collect my Santa suit?

Your suit will be ready to collect on the day you indicated on registering. If you are unable to pick it up, the suit will be taken to the event, where you can collect from the registration point. If you opted to collect from a shop, your suit will be there from the date you are notified of until 4pm on Thursday 10th December. If you have forgotten your collection choice or wish to change your collection location, please contact our Supporter Care Team on 020 8254 2450.

Can I bring my dog?

Dogs are welcome to join you on the Santa Dash, but must be kept under control and on a lead at all times.

Are there minimum age requirements to take part in the event?

Adults and children of all ages and abilities are welcome. Children are aged 5-15 years, adults are 16 years and above. Under 5's take part for free.

What are my parking options at the event?

The closest entry for the registration point in Nonsuch Park is via the Cheam Gate on Ewell Road, Cheam Village. Once in the park you can make your way to the starting point which will be at the front of the Mansion House, by the café. There are public car parks by the main gates and closer to the start point if you are driving to the event. There will be no designated parking for the Santa Dashers. Disabled parking is available in the public car parks.

Parking is limited and additional car parks can be found off the A24 between North Cheam and the Ewell bypass.

Public Transport

There are several buses that serve Nonsuch park, some stops are closer than others. These routes include: 151, 213, 470 & SL7 to Cheam Village and the 293 alighting on the A24 near the junction of Sparrow Farm Road with a short walk through the park.

The closest railway station is Cheam.

Is there disabled access?

The venue is fully accessible. The routes are over a combination of path, grass and pavements but some of the ground is uneven and can become muddy and slippery. If you are still unsure, please contact the fundraising office on the details below prior to entering for further advice.

What is the refund/cancellation policy?

All registration fees are non-refundable or transferable.

The organisers reserve the right to cancel the event if necessary. Poor weather could cause the route to become unsafe, which could also prevent the event going ahead. Under these circumstances regrettably no refunds can be given as the costs to the charity will have been incurred.

If the organisers are forced to cancel the event on the day due to extreme weather, participants will be notified by email before 8am and a post will be released on our social media.

Is the course measured?

All distances are not officially measured but are approximately 5km and 1.2km.

Are there cloakroom facilities?

There will be an area available to leave your possessions whilst you are taking part in the event which will be manned by a volunteer. However, these items are left at the owners own risk. St Raphael's Hospice, its staff and volunteers, do not accept any responsibility for these items.

When will the prize draw take place?

The prize draw for Santa's who have collected donations over £75 will take place at 3pm on Thursday 18th December.

If raising funds online through the website, we will have been notified of your page and will include you in the draw.

If using a paper sponsorship form, a copy must be sent to the organisers by 12noon on Thursday 18th December:

Samantha Bourne, Fundraising Department, St Raphael's Hospice, London Road, Cheam, Sutton, SM3 9DX.

The winner will be informed and can collect their prize from the Fundraising department at the address above.

How can I contact the organiser with any questions?

Please contact our Fundraising team on supportercare@straphaels.org.uk or on 020 8254 2450.