

Returning to School – Behaviour Policy Addendum (Covid 19)

As St Thomas More Academy begins to welcome back students, it is essential that everybody works together to ensure that staff and students remain safe and well. Good routines and clearly understood expectations will help us create a new temporary ‘normal’ and will help reduce the anxieties of everyone in our school community. Changes that will be in place are outlined below and this amended policy will be shared via the school website and a letter to all parents/carers.

Whilst it is acknowledged that students and their families have all had different experiences of ‘Lockdown’ and we will need to be mindful of the effects of this, these routines and expectations will be at the heart of the successful return to school.

As always and particularly at this difficult time, we expect everyone to have each others welfare at the heart of everything we do, co-operating and being pleasant and helpful to each other will be a good starting point.

Whilst it may take some people longer than others to adapt to these routines and expectations, they are by-in-large ‘non-negotiable’. These expectations and changes must be in place and met to ensure the safety and welfare of all students and staff. Where students are struggling to keep to them; they will be offered support by Mr Anderson, Mr Ballard and other staff within the Pastoral Team to better understand why they are finding the situation so difficult; work will be carried out to help them understand the reason for a particular rule/expectation and why it is so important that they keep to them.

Where a student continues to struggle to manage their behaviour and behaves in a way that undermines the safety or welfare of any member of the school community, the school will draw up a risk assessment with the student, the student’s family and any other professionals who may be involved with an individual or their wider family.

If a student is believed to be struggling with their mental health and that this is impacting on the choices that they are making; appropriate support will be offered from within school or from external professionals where appropriate.

Breaches of the new routines and expectations will be dealt with via the normal school disciplinary procedures and the established sanctions system.

The following incidents will be treated particularly seriously and advice will be sought from Governors and the Local Authority School Support Team to decide next steps for any student involved:

- Persistent and deliberate breaches of expectations despite appropriate support being offered previously
- Deliberately spitting, sneezing or coughing at any member of the school community
- Behaviour or language that is intended to cause alarm or distress to any member of the school community that is Covid 19 related.

Working together we can create a positive learning environment where everyone is able to work productively and safely alongside their friends and peers.

	Changes	Reason
Equipment (Everything in your pencil case)	You should bring your own equipment or use only the equipment provided by the school; you must NOT share equipment	By using only your own equipment you will reduce the risk of passing on the virus
Entering the building	Please come into and leave the building by your allocated doors. On arrival head straight to your designated waiting area maintaining social distance (2m) at all times. On departure only leave via the exit you have been allocated. Do not 'hang around' waiting for others to be dismissed as groups will be dismissed at staggered times to avoid mixing across groups.	This will keep the number of people you come into contact with to a minimum.
Moving around the school	You must always follow the one-way system at all times (no matter how quiet a corridor may seem) and only go to the areas/rooms set aside for you.	This will keep the number of people you come into contact with to a minimum
In classrooms	You will have a designated work station (if in CP room)/desk area that is marked and distanced from others.. Remain in this area at all times. If you need to move for any reason – alert staff and ask permission. Do not move in to other student or staff allocated spaces and do not touch anything else in the room. Do not close open windows or doors as they will be open to ventilate the room.	The virus can transmit via droplets in the air and surfaces touched. The 2 metre rule keeps us all safe and minimal touching of surfaces in the room ensures cleaning between sessions will be more effective.
Contact with others	You must 'socially distance' at all times from both other students and staff. Be respectful and mindful of each other	The 2-metre rule will help keep us all safe
Dining Hall	The Dining Hall will be closed to all Year 10 students. Please ensure you bring with you plenty of water and a substantial snack as you will not be able to fill bottles/ buy any food in school.	The Dining Hall capacity has been reduced in line with government guidelines and is currently being used by groups of key worker/vulnerable children only. This will help reduce the risk of passing on the virus.

<p style="text-align: center;">Personal hygiene</p>	<p>Wash your hands regularly for a minimum of 20 seconds or use the hand sanitiser provided. If you cough or sneeze catch it in a tissue and 'bin it' or use your elbow.</p> <p>** If you are feeling unwell you must notify a member of staff immediately</p> <p>You will have a designated toilet block and are only to use this block at directed times which staff will make you aware of. If you need to use the toilet at any other time you must ask permission from staff, must still follow the one way system and the distancing measures in place within toilet areas.</p>	<p>This will help reduce the risk of passing on the virus</p> <p>The prevention of mixing between groups at any time reduces the risk of the virus spreading.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Uniform</p>	<p>All students are to come to school wearing their St Thomas More PE kit (reminder below from uniform policy)</p>	<p>Easier to wash between visits to school and therefore even less chance of transmission. More comfortable for students and solves problems re students who have outgrown blazers, skirts, shirts etc.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Travel to and from school incl. school buses</p>	<p>School buses will be available during the weeks beginning 29th June and 6th July.</p> <p>We advise you to walk, cycle, or be driven to school if at all possible. If you need to use public transport (incl. school buses) you will need to wear a face covering and have the correct money.</p> <p>Students should not meet/congregate in groups on the way to and from school</p>	<p>Distancing measures will be in place on buses and must be adhered to in order to lower risk of transmission</p> <p>Research has shown that the risk of catching the virus is lower if you are outside in the fresh air and so we encourage students to cycle/ walk to school if at all possible. (Bike sheds will be open)</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Shop</p>	<p>We ask you to avoid using any of the local shops and services before and/or after your lessons.</p>	<p>The prevention of mixing between groups at any time reduces the risk of the virus spreading within the school and local community.</p>

<p align="center">RESPECT & RELATIONSHIPS</p>	<p align="center"><i>'Show respect and make the right choice'</i></p> <p>We aim to develop young people who treat others with dignity and respect and have high expectations of themselves (self respect) and others.</p>	<p>This is not a change but the message is more important now than ever.</p> <p>All children and staff have a right to come to school during this two week period and feel safe at all times.</p>
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<p align="center">Boys PE Kit</p>	<p align="center">Girls PE Kit</p>
<p>Polo shirt – black, maroon and amber Outdoor top ¼ zip – black and maroon Black, plain tracksuit bottoms or black, plain shorts Black football socks Trainers</p>	<p>Polo shirt – black, maroon and amber Outdoor top ¼ zip – black and maroon Black, plain tracksuit bottoms, shorts or leggings Black football socks Trainers</p>