



# ST. THOMAS MORE LANGUAGE COLLEGE

Serving God, Striving for Excellence

Headteacher: Dr T. Papworth Ph.D, MBA, NPOH, MA



*'Outstanding' Ofsted 2013/2014*

*'Outstanding' Diocesan Inspection 2014 and 2018*

13<sup>th</sup> March 2020

Dear Parents / Carers

## RE: Important information and dates

### ***Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19):***

I am writing to reassure you that the school continues to follow the Government advice to ensure the health of our whole community, including pupils and staff. The advice being given to schools is that there is no need for school closure at the moment.

We are monitoring hygiene practices and are going to ensure that from Monday 16<sup>th</sup> March areas in the school which are regularly touched (such as door handles, light switches, desks and table tops) are thoroughly cleaned. In addition to this we plan to have a deeper clean of the school on Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> April should we remain open until then as per the current Government guidelines.

We are strongly advising all parents to ensure their child has their own anti-bacterial gel in school, and that they ensure their child knows how to use it safely. Please also provide a packet of tissues so that they can sneeze and cough into this and bin it as advised. Please encourage your child to regularly wash their hands throughout the day. In addition to this can you please ensure your child is not sharing their water bottle and or food with other students.

There are currently no confirmed cases of coronavirus in this school.

Until we are told by the Government, our school will remain open and, as far as possible function normally. I receive an e-mail from the Department of Education on a daily basis with the latest advice for Headteachers and I will continue to follow this to the letter. It is for the Government to advise schools on whether they should close in response to this outbreak or not.

In the event that we are forced to close the school due to Government action, could you please ensure that your child has the correct log in details for all learning platforms. Instructions and independent work will be set on Google Classroom, for example, in the event of closure.

Please ensure you read the updated guidance online <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/coronavirus-covid19-information-for-the-public>. We will continue to provide regular updates given the rapidly developing events to do with coronavirus. If the guidance for educational settings changes then we will inform you immediately.



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*Portrait of St Thomas More by Hans Holbein the Younger, reproduced by courtesy of the Medici Society*





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## ***Cancellation of school events:***

In addition to the advice we are at the moment receiving, we are of a view that:

- From Monday 16<sup>th</sup> March, there will be no Acts of Worship at school in the hall
- The masses which were due to be held on the Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> March and Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> March will now be cancelled
- Y8 parents evening due to be held on Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> March will be postponed
- Y9 options evening due to be held on Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> March will be postponed
- Y10 information evening Monday 30<sup>th</sup> March will be postponed

Where possible, alternative dates in the future for these events will be emailed out to parents when we know.

## ***Easter break:***

**The last day of term for students will be Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> April.** School will close at 3.15pm and reopen on Monday 20<sup>th</sup> April.

Many thanks for your support in all these matters.

Yours faithfully,

**Dr T Papworth  
Headteacher**



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