



ST. THOMAS MORE LANGUAGE COLLEGE

Serving God, Striving for Excellence

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



'Outstanding' Ofsted 2013/2014 'Outstanding' Diocesan Inspection 2014 and 2018

Dear Family

Hoping this email finds you all physically, emotionally and spiritually safe and well. It has been a great pleasure and privilege to welcome all students 'forward' this week and start our journey together 'forward' into establishing new working and learning routines. Your sons and daughters have been faultless in their support and understanding of our current circumstances and have responded appropriately. I thank them, and your support, most sincerely during this transitional period, which we are all going through together.

The SLT and the Governors have reviewed our start of term and daily operations in our 'year group bubble' system and will continue to do so to inform future practice. The focus of the new way of working is to keep everyone safe and prevent the spread of the COVID-19 virus to avoid partial or complete closure of the school for students and staff.

Further Update Details for Year 7

All students have had all the details and systems explained to them and we need their continued support as we move forward into the coming weeks.

Details

Face masks	Could all students please ensure they are wearing face masks in the corridors and when they line up for lunch. Students must have a face mask for travelling on public transport and a different one for in school. Many thanks for your support in this. Students must be wearing face masks when they are standing outside the school waiting to come in. However, we would ask students not to congregate by the gate if they arrive too early. Please try to ensure students arrive at the time the gates open for their arrival time. We must be considerate to our neighbours and community. Many thanks for your support in this.
Lunch	We are hoping that 'LUNCHTIME' will be providing hot takeaway food from next week. We will transition into sitting down in the canteen once students have got used to certain routines. Also, we are in discussion with them over the choice of menu for the next few weeks as we have not been satisfied with the service since coming back. We appreciate the difficulties they may be experiencing but we want to work with them to improve the service during this difficult time.
CHROME BOOK order	We are still awaiting the arrival of the Chrome Books – once they have arrived we will inform parents / carers who then may wish to purchase one. I am guessing that due to the high demand from all schools nationally and internationally that this is the reason for the long delay in getting our order.



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Arrival times / departure times	Please see information below and the temporary / transition timetable will stay in place until further notice. See note above concerning face masks as well.
Information Evenings	These evenings are cancelled until further notice. More information will follow concerning these.
Uniform	On the whole we have been mega impressed with the school uniform, however, some students need to now ensure they are in full school uniform – please refer to the student planner for the details. Any issues, please inform the school – however, there are no excuses for in appropriate haircuts, for example, and we will be following up on these with consequences next week.
Homelearning	The focus on our return has been on getting students back into routines and we should now turn our focus to doing more independent homelearning. The homelearning timetable includes 'reading, L2LTR and Green Pen' in addition to the tasks set by the teachers. L2LTR will be explained in full to the students in due course.

Please take time to read the following arrival and dismissal times in order to avoid any confusion.

Year 7 venues and timings

Week A 14 th Sept	8.35am Arrival	9.45am Arrival	11.00am Location	Dismissal	1.30pm Location	3.00pm Location
Mon	Yes		Picnic area	1.30pm		
Tues		Yes	P2 classroom		Picnic area	Tutor base
Weds	Yes		Picnic area	1.30pm		
Thurs		Yes	P2 classroom		Picnic area	Tutor base
Fri	Yes		Picnic area	1.30pm		

Week B 21 st Sept	8.35am Arrival	9.45am Arrival	11.00am Location	Dismissal	1.30pm Location	3.00pm Location
Mon	Yes		Picnic area	1.30pm		
Tues		Yes	P2 classroom		Picnic area	Tutor base
Weds	Yes		Picnic area	1.30pm		
Thurs		Yes	P2 classroom		Picnic area	Tutor base
Fri	Yes		Picnic area	1.30pm		

As stated in previous communications, I am sure you appreciate the complexity of such arrangements at STMLC, but we are confident that with our adjustments, which has included installing outside wash basins for the frequent washing of hands; staggered starts and finishes; different lunchtimes and the rearrangement of classroom spaces, that we will be able to continue to function safely within the Government Guidelines.



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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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Please note

- **students with symptoms of COVID-19 must not attend school – temperature to be checked before leaving for school**
- **students living with people with symptoms of COVID-19 must not attend school**
- **students with or living with people with COVID-19 must not attend school**
- **students must wear masks on public transport**
- **students should carry sanitiser, tissues, a name labelled bottle of water and a spare mask for their own personal use.**

On a more personal note, can I just add that all staff and myself have genuinely been impressed with Year 7 – from uniform to attitude and maturity. They are a fantastic credit to you all. Mike Mullen, our special visitor Monday, noted just how receptive and engaged they were during his talk and display. Mike Mullen was here to launch our 'Be the Best You Can Be' programme that runs through our curriculum and compliments our ethos and motto. Further activities concerning this will follow in due course.

I look forward to the day we can meet safely – hopefully this is sometime sooner rather than later.

God Bless

Dr T Papworth

11 September 2020

Dear God

**We can only do our best, so help us not fall short of our best
which is to**

help us be what You intended us to be

**By helping us to be grateful, positive, gentle, patient and kind to ourselves and others
through Jesus Christ our Lord**

St Thomas More

Pray for us

Our Lady of Perpetual Succour

Pray for us



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