



**St. Thomas More**  
CATHOLIC VOLUNTARY ACADEMY

St. Thomas More Catholic Voluntary Academy, Palace Fields, Buxton, Derbyshire, SK17 6AF Headteacher: Mr D Redfern

July 2023

Dear Parents and Carers

I want to take this opportunity to thank our students, parents and carers for the support shown to St Thomas More during this academic year. We are a school on a journey, and we are happy to be making positive progress since our Ofsted report back in January. Since publication of the report, the academy has won multiple external attendance awards. Visits from the trust CEO, governors, school improvement team and other visitors have commented upon the positive changes in the school standards, expectations, and ethos. I am happy to report improvements to our site. The learning support area has been relocated to within the heart of the school, two new parental meeting rooms have been built and outside, walls are being replaced to open up and improve spaces on our yard. Further work is planned for the autumn term.

In the classroom, students will now be issued with an academic planner. This will further support home learning and overall communication between school and home. When we return in September the pastoral structure will be strengthened. In addition to form tutors and pastoral managers, 3 new Heads of Year have been appointed. The role of the Year Heads is to support students pastorally, ensure sanctions and rewards are consistent and to closely monitor attainment progress and attendance.

As we look forward to the new academic year, I am excited by the journey that is ahead. My focus will remain of creating a culture where every student can learn, and they are supported to meet their full potential. I want our learners to go on to have a choice filled life, armed with academic success and the life skills to enhance their attainment. My aim for the St Thomas More students is to be role models to all, both in our school and within the wider community. The standards and expectations for 2023-24 are high, and we expect our students to meet these standards.

I have attached an overview of the Academy's uniform and equipment guidance for the upcoming academic year.

**Students will return to school on Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> September.**

On behalf of myself and all the staff I wish you and your families a happy and healthy summer break.

Mrs Sarah Lancett

Acting Head of School



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## Uniform and equipment guidance 2023-24

### GIRLS (Years 7,8,9 )

- Plain white shirt and school tie
- Maroon V-neck sweater with school crest (not optional)
- Black skirt or trousers (not jeans, cords, ski pants, bootleg trousers, etc.)
- Sensible black shoes – high heels, platform heels and trainers are not suitable
- Socks – black or tights

### BOYS (Years 7,8,9)

- White shirt and school tie
- Maroon V-neck sweater with school crest (not optional)
- Black trousers (NOT jeans)
- Sensible black shoes- no trainers
- Socks – black or other dark colour#

### Year 10/11 Uniform

#### GIRLS

- Black skirt or trousers of an acceptable style (Not jeans, cords or leggings etc.)
- Black V-neck jumper with school crest (not optional)
- Maroon school tie
- White shirt
- Sensible black shoes- no trainers

#### BOYS

- Black trousers
- Black V-neck sweater with school crest (not optional)
- Maroon school tie
- White Shirt
- Sensible black shoes- no trainers

**Reasonable outdoor coat – it is not acceptable for students to wear leather, denim, tracksuit top, sweatshirt, non-school hoodies, coloured shirts worn as coats.**

### ALL YEARS – P.E. KIT – Basic Kit – COMPULSORY

- School Polo Shirt- Black
- Plain black P.E. shorts, black jogging bottoms or black leggings
- Trainers
- Black football socks
- School Hoodie (Optional)
- A towel for showering





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- All valuable items such as watches, and money and mobile phones should be left at home. Staff will not be held responsible for any lost property.

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### **Equipment**

Every student is expected to provide the following basic items of equipment for every lesson:

- School Bag
- Planner
- Black or blue ball point pen
- Coloured pencils/fine fibre tips
- Calculator- Casio FX 83 GT Plus Scientific Calculator or similar.
- Pencil case
- Pencil
- Pencil sharpener
- Ruler 12"/30cm

### **HAIR and MAKEUP**

Pupils are expected to wear hair in a neat and acceptable style. Hair must be of one colour, natural in appearance. Hair styles must not be cut below a number two. Hair styles judged to be extreme by the Head Teacher are not permitted. Make-up, including coloured nail varnish, lip gloss and fake tan, is not to be worn. Hair fashion accessories are also not to be worn. False nails or other such beauty accessories are not acceptable.

**The Head Teacher reserves the right to make the final decision on what is or what is not appropriate.**

### **JEWELLERY**

Watches and one small stud earring in each ear lobe are the only pieces of jewellery permitted at school, no rings should be worn. The Academy does not take any responsibility for the loss of or damage to personal possessions brought on to site. Large amounts of money or items of value (including personal audio equipment (such as, airpods, electronic devices or jewellery) should not be brought into the Academy. Such items will be confiscated by staff. The property can then be obtained by parents from the Visitors reception.



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