

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

23<sup>rd</sup> July 2025

Dear Parents and Carers,

## Arrangements for the Start of the New Academic Year – September 2025

As we approach the end of this academic year, I would like to share with you the arrangements for the start of term in September, to help with planning over the summer break.

- Year 7 pupils will return to school on Monday 8th September 2025.
- All other year groups will return on Tuesday 9th September 2025.

We look forward to welcoming our new Year 7 pupils as they begin their journey with us, and to seeing the rest of our students return ready to continue their learning.

It is vital that all pupils arrive in September fully equipped and ready to engage positively in their studies. This includes wearing the correct school uniform and bringing the required equipment each day. High standards of presentation and organisation are an important part of our school culture and help ensure a successful start to the year.

A full list of uniform and equipment requirements is available on our website here:

https://www.stthomasmorebuxton.srscmat.co.uk/parents/uniform-and-equipment/

Please do take some time over the summer to ensure that your child is fully prepared for the start of term.

We would also like to take this opportunity to remind families of our Mobile Phone Policy, which will continue to be firmly enforced from September. The policy can be viewed in full here:

**Mobile Phone Policy 2024** 

Mobile phones must be switched off and stored out of sight throughout the school day, including during break and lunch times. They must not be used on school premises unless a member of staff has given explicit permission for a specific purpose.

This policy exists for good reason. A significant proportion of behavioural, pastoral, and safeguarding concerns in school are directly linked to the use of mobile phones, messaging apps, and social media platforms. These devices can lead to distractions in lessons, social tensions, and incidents that often begin outside school but spill over into the school environment.

By reducing the presence and influence of mobile phones during the school day, we aim to:

- Support positive mental health and wellbeing
- Minimise conflict, bullying and social pressure
- Encourage face-to-face interaction and healthy relationships
- Maintain a focused, respectful learning environment







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

We ask for your full support in reinforcing this policy with your child before the start of term, and ensuring they understand the importance of using mobile devices responsibly and appropriately.

Thank you for your continued support. We look forward to a positive and productive year ahead.

Mrs S Lancett

Blanost

**Deputy Headteacher** 



