

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

6th August 2025

Dear Parents and Carers,

As we enjoy the summer break, I'm sure many of you - like me - are starting to prepare your child for the new school year in September.

With this in mind, I'd like to take this opportunity to remind you of our uniform policy, to assist with your planning and purchases over the coming weeks.

Our students take great pride in their appearance each day, and we find that this positively impacts their attitude towards learning and their pride in our school community. Following the uniform guidelines also helps reduce time spent addressing non-compliance, allowing us to focus more on what truly matters - your child's education and learning experience.

School Skirt

St Thomas More has a uniform skirt that is consistent for all pupils. This skirt is only available from Classworx in Macclesfield or directly from their website: <u>Classworx</u>

This is the only permitted skirt as part of our uniform, and it must not be altered or modified in any way. Pupils who prefer not to wear the skirt may choose to wear trousers instead.

Girls' Trousers

Trousers must be made from school uniform material. Leggings or trousers made from Lycra or similar stretchy materials are not allowed.

Classworx stocks suitable trousers, which are also available from various retailers. Below are examples of acceptable options:

- Girls High Waist Skinny School Trousers M&S Collection
- Girls' Skinny Leg Belted School Trousers M&S Collection
- V by Very Girls 2 Pack Woven School Trouser Plus Size Black
- Black Senior Belted Skinny Stretch School Trousers Next
- Trutex Straight Leg Twin Pocket Girls Black School Trousers
- School Skinny Stretch Trousers Next
- Plain Front School Trousers Next
- Girls' Adjustable Waist Slim Leg School Trousers John Lewis
- Black senior school flare trousers Next

Supermarkets also stock appropriate trousers made from acceptable materials. If you're unsure whether an item meets our uniform standards, please contact me on apimblett@stm.srscmat.co.uk for clarification.

Boys' Trousers

Boys are also required to wear trousers made from school uniform material. Suitable designs are available from Classworx or from supermarket retailers.







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Jumpers

School logo jumpers are available from Classworx.

- KS3 pupils (Years 7–9) should wear the burgundy jumper
- KS4 pupils (Years 10–11) should wear the black jumper

We also have a small number of pre-loved jumpers available to purchase through school - please contact us if interested.

Socks and Tights

Socks must be plain black or charcoal when worn with trousers, shorts, or skirts. White or coloured/fluffy socks are not permitted. Tights must be plain black.

Shoes

Footwear must be: Plain black, flat, and sensible, free from logos or motifs, polishable (not canvas or fabric) and closed-toe

Boots are permitted only if they are plain black and ankle length. We will allow plain black Nike Air Force-style shoes with the metal tag removed. For visual guidance, please refer to the examples on the <u>school website</u>.

Jewellery and Hair

Jewellery is limited to a watch and studs in the lower ears, all other earrings must be removed. A new piercing at risk of healing is not an acceptable excuse for wearing anything other than studs in ears. Any nose piercings must be removed; a clear plastic spacer can be used as a replacement.

Makeup and nail varnish must look natural; extreme-length acrylic nails of colour will not be accepted. There should be no extreme hairstyles, such as patterns shaved into the head or vivid hair colours.

The Importance of Your Support

Your continued support in maintaining these standards is greatly appreciated. Ensuring your child attends school in the correct uniform prevents unnecessary sanctions and supports a calm, focused learning environment. Please note that non-compliance with the uniform policy will result in one or more of the following: The pupil being placed in isolation and/or a request for parents to bring the correct uniform to school and/or the pupil being sent home to change.

We hope to avoid these situations with your cooperation.

For full details and images of our uniform expectations, please visit our school website: Uniform and Equipment – St Thomas More School

Equipment

Can I also take this opportunity to draw your attention to the equipment list on our school website found using the link above.

Equipment checks take place weekly, so please help us by ensuring your child's pencil case is fully stocked with all necessary items.







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Reading Books

At St Thomas More, we are dedicated to nurturing a love of reading and helping pupils become confident and fluent readers. As part of our form time programme, tutors read aloud with pupils once a week, and each half-term, all subjects integrate literacy into their lessons. Key Stage 3 pupils are encouraged to carry a reading book daily, as they may be asked to read during form time or lessons. We're fortunate to have a fantastic library, where pupils can borrow books for this purpose.

Chewing Gum

Please remind your child that chewing gum should not be brought to school. If a pupil is seen chewing gum, they will be asked to dispose of it, and repeated offences may lead to a sanction according to our behaviour policy.

Mobile Phones

Research shows that mobile phones can impact young people's well-being and learning. Consequently, mobile phones and other electronic devices are not allowed during the school day. Any phone brought to school must remain switched off and stored in the pupil's bag, and tutors will check this each morning. Our full mobile phone policy is available on the school website, and we greatly appreciate your support.

Thank you once again for taking the time to read this letter. I hope you and your family enjoy the remainder of the summer break. We look forward to welcoming your child back to school in September, ready for a successful and positive start to the new academic year.

Yours sincerely,

Miss A Pimblett

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Assistant Headteacher for Behaviour and Standards



