

Welcome to St Thomas More Catholic Academy

Faith, Excellence, Respect





What will I need for my first day?

We have high standards at St Thomas More Catholic Academy, so it is important to wear the correct uniform from your first day.

Your bag should be big enough to hold A4 folders, books, your planner and a pencil case. Inside your pencil case, you will need:

- Two black pens
- Green pen
- Pencil
- Ruler
- Rubber
- Scientific calculator
- Protractor
- Highlighter pens

Can I bring my mobile phone into school?

You can bring your phone into school, but it must be turned off between 8.50am and 3.20pm. You are not allowed to use it during break and lunch.



What is expected of me?

We want to ensure that every student realises how amazing, special and loved they are.

By keeping our values of **Faith**, **Excellence and Respect**, we can have a happy and aspirational environment where every student can thrive.

At St Thomas More Catholic Academy, we reward good behaviour. There are consequences for students who do not meet our high standards of behaviour.

Rewards and behaviour

You can receive reward points in three categories:

- R1 Classroom-based
- R2 Home learning / Homework / Teams-based
- R3 Enrichment / Other achievements / Representing the academy.

You and your form can also be rewarded for excellent or improved attendance, or for performing acts of charity.

We hand out Praise Postcards, hold Celebration Assemblies at the end of each half term, and give Attendance Rewards. We also enjoy an Awards Evening with prizes, such as trips to Alton Towers or Lord's Cricket Ground. We have a consequence process for poor behaviour when the level of sanction you can be given depends on the type of misbehaviour witnessed by staff.

For example:

- Shouting out verbal warning or break / lunchtime detention
- Using a mobile phone verbal warning or break / lunchtime detention
- Rudeness to teacher 60-minute detention

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Top tips











What happens in a school day?

The school day looks like this:

8.50am - School starts with form time

9.15am - Period 1

10.20am - Period 2

11.20am - Break

11.40am - Period 3

12.45pm - Period 4

1.45pm - Lunch

2.20pm - Period 5

3.20pm - End of the school day



We also have an exciting extra-curricular programme, including clubs and school trips.

Among the clubs you can join are:

- Basketball Book Chess Choir
- Eastern European Society Football
- Keyboard Michelle Moss Dance
- Music Technology Pokémon Polish
- Rugby Space Science Textiles

We run fantastic school trips to destinations such as the West End, French Christmas Markets and university campuses.

How much homework will I get?

Your subject teacher will set homework every day and let you know when it needs to be handed in. Year 7s are expected to study for approximately 1 hour every night.

What sort of food is available?

You can choose to have a hot meal, a salad, a sandwich, pizza or pasta. We provide a delicious range of food and drink every day.

Can I use the toilet during lesson time?

Although you have access to the toilets throughout the day, we encourage you to use these facilities during break time, lunchtime and lesson changeover.

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How do we practise our Catholic Faith at school?

As a Catholic school, we will provide you with an education based upon our Gospel Values.

Christ is at the heart of our community, where everyone is known and loved.

Our Mission Statement is 'Aspire to be More'. This recognises our patron saint, St Thomas More, and reflects our aspirations for you.

We call Form Time the **Morning Mission Programme**. During this time, we have **Fifteen Minutes of Faith**, when students plan a form session based on a theme such as Advent, Lent or a feast day. You can also enjoy time in our beautiful chapel.

Your forms are named after saints. We have Masses and celebrations for these saints throughout the year. Our saints are:

St Thomas More (1478-1535)

Blessed Dominic Barberi (1792-1849)

St John Bosco (1815-1888)

St Maximilian Kolbe (1894-1941)

St Rose of Lima (1586-1617)

St Teresa of Calcutta (1910-1997)

St Therese of Lisieux (1873-1897)

St Vincent de Paul (1581-1660)



Who can I speak to if I am worried or upset?

Everyone has worries or problems from time to time. At St Thomas More Catholic Academy, there is always someone to talk to. The first person to speak to is your form tutor. We have a team of people you can talk to depending on the sort of problem you have. They are:

Form Tutor



Transition Lead



Head of Year 7



Student Support Officer



School Mental Health Lead

How can the Pastoral Team help me?

The team can help you with the transition to secondary school and run sessions to help you with your emotions and mental health. These include therapy dogs visits and sessions on Anger Management, Managing Worry, Understanding Sadness, Helpful v Unhelpful Thinking, Positive Self-Image and Healthy Relationships.

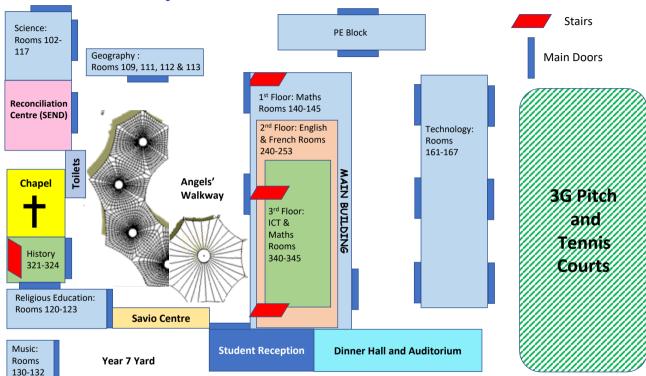
Will I make friends?

You will have an opportunity to make plenty of new friends from your form, and some friends may come up from your primary school with you. There will be 200 Year 7s joining you at St Thomas More Catholic Academy, so that's a chance to make 199 new friends!



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School Map





St Thomas More Catholic Academy

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