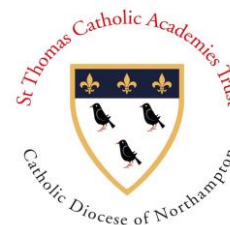




**ST JOSEPH'S CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL**  
Roman Catholic School  
in the Diocese of Northampton  
Headteacher: Mr C Stapleton MA, NPQH



"The glory of God is  
a human being fully alive!"

26<sup>th</sup> August, 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

As we approach the beginning of the new academic year I wanted to confirm the final arrangements for the opening of the school now the government has confirmed the operational guidance for school settings under the current pandemic earlier this week. We can confirm that there is no change to the provisional dates we sent out in July. Please see below the detail for the staggered return of pupils at the start of the new year.

Arrangements for the beginning of Autumn Term

- Tuesday 31<sup>st</sup> August **Year 8 9am, Year 9 11am** and **Year 10** Students *1pm* arrive for LAT flow tests. Students only come in for testing then go home.
- Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> September *Inset day 1* for staff . (LAT flow testing for **Years 11 9am, Year 12 11am** and **Year 13 1pm**). Students only come in for testing then go home.
- Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> September *Inset day 2* for staff only. No students in school.
- Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> September transition day 1 for **Year 7 only** (including LAT Flow tests). Students can arrive from 8am and will be directed to the lower school playground – staff will be ready to meet and greet the students. Registration will officially start from 8.30am.
- Monday 6<sup>th</sup> September transition day 2 for **Year 7** and induction day for **Year 12 only** (LAT Flow testing for **Years 8 9am, 9 11am and year 10 1pm** ). Years 8, 9 & 10 come in for testing only -then go home.
- Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> September year 7 in school for lessons (LAT flow testing for **years 11 9am, Year 12 11am, Year 13 1pm**). Year 11, 12 and 13 come in for testing only then go straight home.
- Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> September Year 7, 12 and 13 in school all day. (**LAT flow testing year 7**)
- Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> September **whole school returns**. Years 7& 8 go to the lower school playground, Years 10&11 go to the Upper school playground and year 9 go to the Quad area. Sixth Form go to their communal study room. Students will receive their timetables in tutor time and Period 1 (PSHE).

LAT Flow Testing will take place in the chapel. Students undertaking the tests should to go straight to the chapel line up take the test and then go straight home. All students will need to remember:

- Home address including their post code.
- A mobile number and an email address they can receive confirmation of their test result (they can bring their mobile to the test (they do not need to remember their NHS number).

**The students should be in school uniform for the testing.** This will be important, as there will be occasions over the testing period when other students will be in lessons over the staggered beginning of the year.

This may be a good opportunity to remind the students about our expectations of uniform so there isn't any unnecessary upset when the students return – we're pretty conservative in our approach to uniform so if in doubt, please contact the school for clarification in advance. On the days that students have PE, they should now come to school in school uniform where they can change in the changing rooms.

Boys

- Trousers – Grey/Black
- Socks – Dark Grey/Black
- Shoes – Hard sensible Black (no trainers/boots)

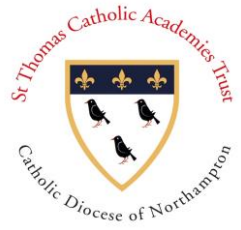
St Thomas Catholic Academies Trust | Registered Company Number: 9660515

Registered office: St Joseph's Catholic High School, Shaggy Calf Lane, Slough, Berkshire, SL2 5HW

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### Girls

- Skirt – Thomson Tartan no shorter than knee length
- Socks – White or Black ankle length NOT knee length
- Shoes – Hard sensible Black (no canvas plimssoles, trainers, boots)

### Boys and Girls P.E Kit

#### *Girls – Compulsory*

- Fleece
- Girls' Polo Shirt
- Skort
- Socks

#### *Girls – Optional*

- Shorts

#### *Boys – Compulsory*

- Fleece
- Boys' Polo Shirt
- Rugby Shirt
- Shorts
- Socks

### Other uniform matters include:

- No make-up should be worn. Girls may wear one small plain (gold/silver) stud earring (no stones) in the lower lobe of each ear.
- Boys may wear one small plain (gold/silver) stud earring (no stones) in one ear only.
- No other piercings such as tongue studs, navel, lip, nose or eye-brow piercings are allowed.
- No bracelets to be worn and necklaces should not be visible.
- One plain flat ring may be worn.
- Boys hairstyles must be short, neat and tidy – no extremes (tram lines or patterns); shaved eyebrows are not permitted.
- No extreme colours in the hair – no dyed hairstyles or colours.
- No tattoos.
- No Hoodies (other than school issued Hoodies for specific St Joseph's teams that are school logo'd)
- No clothing (other than regulation school uniform is to be worn) with slogans, badges or other insignia on them.
- A dark plain coat for school (black, dark grey or dark navy) with only plain scarves (again black, grey or navy)
- No coloured/painted nails or artificial nails (the latter of which are a safety hazard).

The school day starts with registration at 8.30am sharp. Students should ensure they are on site well before then. The school day finishes for all students at 3pm. The school day will retain a staggered break time and lunchtime. Now that year groups do not need to socially bubble we're able to use the canteen for several year groups which will help with the distribution of hot food as well as the second outlet in the Quad area..

We'll be taking the opportunity to meet face to face with you as parents and carers and run over how the year works with a Welcome Evening for each group early in the start of the Academic Year 5pm – 6pm:

- Year 7 Welcome and Introduction Evening 7<sup>th</sup> September
- Year 8 Welcome and Introduction Evening 22<sup>nd</sup> September

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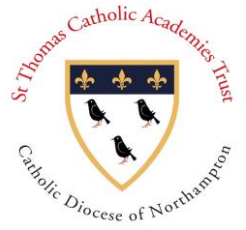
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- Year 9 Welcome and Introduction Evening 29<sup>th</sup> September
- Year 10 Welcome and Introduction Evening 28<sup>th</sup> September
- Year 11 Welcome and Introduction Evening 15<sup>th</sup> September
- Sixth Form Welcome and Introduction Evening 21<sup>st</sup> September
- Year 13 Post 18 Options Evening (Universities, UCAS and training)

Finally, it's really exciting to be coming back to the school when things look as though they are returning to normal. That may change as the year goes on but we'll keep you updated with any changes that impact on the school day as soon as they are made available to us. To that end, I've also attached the most up to date plan of how we'll deal with the current pressures of maintaining the education of the children within a Covid context in the document *Continuing Education: Practical Arrangements* which is also on the school website. This document outlines all possible scenarios and how the plan to continue learning and teaching in whatever situation presents itself.

As ever, please don't hesitate to get in contact with us if you have any questions. We're all looking forward to greeting the students back to school next week.

Yours sincerely

Ciran Stapleton

Head Teacher

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