



Thomas More Catholic School 11-19

Mr N. Walters, Headteacher

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London Borough of Croydon
Roman Catholic Archdiocese
of Southwark

To Care. To Learn. To Achieve

Monday 19th October 2020

Dear Parents/Carers,

Local COVID alert level: High - Wearing face coverings in school

I expect that many of you will have seen this in the news but I must inform you that from today - Monday 19 October 2020 - all pupils, students and adults should wear a face covering in all indoor communal areas when at school (not including classrooms). This is in line with current Government guidance as London is on the High COVID Alert level from Saturday 17 October 2020.

We therefore expect that your child will wear a face covering in school indoors (other than in classrooms) from Monday 19 October 2020.

(Where local restrictions apply)

In areas where local lockdowns or restrictions are in place, face coverings should be worn by adults and pupils (in years 7 and above) in areas outside classrooms when moving around communal areas where social distancing is difficult to maintain such as corridors. <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/actions-for-schools-during-the-coronavirus-outbreak/guidance-for-full-opening-schools#soc>

For pupils this does not include classrooms or when they are on their playgrounds as the additional precaution of the pupils being in their bubbles are in place in these areas.

We strongly encourage all staff, students and pupils to use reusable face coverings as these are better for the environment and more economical in the long term. If using reusable face coverings, it is important that when they are removed they are placed in a plastic bag and washed at the end of the day. If your child is using a disposable mask this should be disposed of properly in the lidded bins around the school.

The guidance also remains the same that face coverings used on the way to school should be removed at the school gates and a different face covering should then be worn in school. It is also important that pupils and students follow guidance on how to put on and take off face coverings correctly.

see link - <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/face-coverings-when-to-wear-one-and-how-to-make-your-own/face-coverings-when-to-wear-one-and-how-to-make-your-own#how-to-wear-a-face-covering>

There are permitted exemptions to the wearing of face coverings and if your child does have a valid reason for not wearing a face covering would you please inform the school by emailing his Head of Year or tutor or the School Office as soon as possible.

It is my understanding that this expectation will remain in place while London remains at COVID alert level: High. I will inform you of any changes to this as soon as we are made aware of them.

I am very aware of the little notice that you have to ensure that your child has a face covering for school however they will be expected to wear a face covering indoors at school other than in the classroom from Monday 19 October. I do however expect many of them and you already have face coverings.

If you have any queries relating to the wearing of face coverings please do not hesitate to contact me at school via the school office schooloffice@tmore.org.uk

Kind regards and best wishes,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'N. Walters', followed by a period.

Mr. N. Walters
Headteacher