



Thomas More Catholic School 11-19

Mr N. Walters, Headteacher
Russell Hill Road, Purley, Surrey, CR8 2XP
T. 020 8668 6251 E. schooloffice@tmore.org.uk W. www.tmore.org.uk

London Borough of Croydon
Roman Catholic Archdiocese
of Southwark

To Care. To Learn. To Achieve

Tuesday 5th January 2021

Dear All,

Schools Online Until at least Half Term

It was sad to hear the announcement yesterday evening that schools will be shut to all but the children of keyworkers and the most vulnerable. However, it was not a total surprise given the way the figures on infections and deaths were going. I hope you and your families have been well.

All of us at Thomas More will still be working to deliver learning but this will be online for the next few weeks and it seems that this will last until at least half term. Only the children of keyworkers and a few others will be able to come into school. If you think this might apply for your child please let Mr. Kearns, Deputy Headteacher know via jke@tmore.org.uk

However, I want to inform you of what the learning arrangements will be for the rest of this week and moving forward and I also want to let you know about one or two other points.

Years 10-13

Lessons this week will be delivered online via Teams. Students should be familiar with this by now but there are instructions on the website. Lessons will start at the following times:

Lesson One - 8:40am

Lesson Two - 9:40am

Lesson Three - 11:00am

Lesson Four - 12:00pm

Lesson Five - 1:45pm

Lessons online will last for between 30-45 minutes which will allow staff and pupils to transition between lessons and also take a brief break which is important when you are spending so much of the day in front of a screen.

Years 7-9

Learning materials and work will be put up on Sims InTouch. Again there are instructions about this on the website. The difference for this week between these year groups and the older year groups is designed to give us capacity to supervise the keyworker groups and also because of our high staff absence at the moment. Sadly, we have 18 staff off this week which puts our systems under pressure.

Students and pupils in these year groups should try to stick to the schedule above but a little flexibility is also fine.

So far

Even though we have only had a morning of lessons so far – the reports on attendance, turn out and engagement are very good indeed. Keep going everyone!



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From Next Week

From next week all year groups will be learning via Teams.

Fridays

I would also like to let you know that Fridays will be timetabled as normal days not as the shortened day which we used to help pupils get home on the buses.

A Note on the Year 11 Mocks

These will now not take place next week obviously and at the moment it is uncertain what form the summer exams will take. I will update you as I know what is intended. I know news is breaking on social media and other media channels but I will wait until I receive official notification before sharing news with you. Please note however that mocks will not take place next week although of course some of your teachers may still use assessments as part of their teaching.

BTECS this week

We have just heard that BTEC exams will carry on as planned this week and next. Students should only come in for the exams but should be in school 30-45 minutes ahead of the start time.

Useful Contacts

It may be useful for you to know who to contact in the next few weeks should you have any concerns or queries. Here is a list of the principal contacts:

Mr Kearns – Deputy Headteacher - to be the point of contact for unwell pupils, those showing symptoms or anyone who has had a positive test and to be responsible for any students of key workers or vulnerable children coming to school and to coordinate all of the work on testing.

jke@tmore.org.uk

Mrs Dako – Deputy Headteacher – to coordinate high quality home school Teaching and Learning and making sure that the staff are kept well informed of expectations and possibilities. Also to be the particularly responsible for the learning of any students of key workers or vulnerable children coming to school. mda@tmore.org.uk

Mr Pitt – Assistant Headteacher – to be responsible for the more able to make sure they are getting enough challenge, to follow up online behaviour and to coordinate tutor actions. dpi@tmore.org.uk

Ms Yost - Head of Sixth Form and Assistant Headteacher - to be the link for the Sixth form for home learning, those in school and for those taking external exams. lyo@tmore.org.uk

Mr Clarke - to be working with the staff supporting the online Teams lessons. ecl@tmore.org.uk

Dr Brushwood - to support any pupils or students who are having significant technology issues in order that pupils can undertake home learning effectively. jbr@tmore.org.uk



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Mr Beech – to stay abreast of assessments and catch up in Year 7 and 8 jbe@tmore.org.uk

Miss Tejera – to be the point of contact for SEN pupils and the most vulnerable rte@tmore.org.uk

If you have any Safeguarding Concerns – please contact safeguarding@tmore.org.uk

There are also the Heads of Year who can be contacted via schooloffice@tmore.org.uk

Head of Year 7 and 8 - Miss Ogbonnaya

Head of Year 9 – Mrs Osei-Fosu

Head of year 10 - Miss Gayle

Head of Year 11 Mr Ogwuda

God Bless and stay safe.

Mr Nathan Walters

Headteacher