



Friday 22nd October, 2021

CV-19 Control Measures Update

Dear Parents / Guardians,

I hope this letter finds you well. Firstly can I say what a great start to the academic year the pupils have made; pupils are working hard and have been a pleasure to have in school. Unfortunately, we could not end the half term in our traditional way with our sponsored walk due to permission being rescinded from the council late yesterday. We will of course look at how we can reschedule this if possible.

Yesterday schools received an update from Public Health following an increase in cases of CV-19 being reported in school age children. In this update there is a recommendation that schools should consider the control measures they have in place to support pupils returning to school on Monday 1st November. The information below outlines the control measures we will be implementing after half term.

Face Coverings

- All members of the school community, unless exempt, will be asked to return to wearing face coverings in communal areas.
- All pupils using public transport to travel to and from school are asked to wear a face covering at all times during the journey.

Visitors to School Site

- We will limit the number of external visitors to our school site to essential only.
- For parents this means we will continue to share information via letters, virtual meetings or pre-recorded presentations.

Stay at Home Guidance

- We have been asked to encourage all families to follow the 'Stay at Home Guidance' from the Government.
- This guidance refers to those with symptoms and those that have tested positive.
- The link below will take you to this guidance, can we please ask everyone to read this prior to returning to school.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-stay-at-home-guidance>

Close Contacts & Testing

- We have been asked to reiterate the information relating to close contacts and testing.
- Household close contacts, who are exempt from isolation and are attending school are encouraged to carry out daily lateral flow testing for 10 days after the onset of symptoms [or positive test if asymptomatic] of the case in their household, and only attend school if their lateral flow test is negative.

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Self Testing

- Guidance continues to strongly advise that pupils test themselves at least twice a week.
- We recommend that pupils carry this out either on a Sunday evening / Monday morning and then again Wednesday evening / Thursday morning.
- It is very important that all pupils take a lateral flow test prior to returning to school after half term. We suggest that pupils test on the Sunday evening or the morning of Monday 1st November.

Vaccinations for 12 to 15 Year Olds

- You will all probably be aware that 12 to 15 year olds can now book their COVID-19 vaccinations on the NHS national booking site.
- If this is something you are interested in the link below will take you to the booking site:
- <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/coronavirus-vaccination/book-coronavirus-vaccination/>

We will continue to take advice from Public Health and respond accordingly within school. As and when there are any further changes we will write to you as soon as possible. In the meantime, please use the house email addresses if you have any queries or concerns.

St Bernadette	St Catherine Laboure	St John Fisher	St Therese	Sixth Form
s_stbqueries@stthomasmore.org.uk	s_stclqueries@stthomasmore.org.uk	s_stjfqueries@stthomasmore.org.uk	s_sttqueries@stthomasmore.org.uk	s_6frmqueries@stthomasmore.org.uk

I hope your child has a restful and enjoyable health term and we look forward to welcoming pupils back to school on Monday 1st November.

Yours sincerely

Mr J Parkinson
Headteacher

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