



Longton Hall Road, Longton, Stoke-on-Trent. ST3 2NJ
Tel: 01782 882900 | Email: office@stmca.org.uk | www.stmca.org.uk | @StThomasMoreCA
Headteacher: Mr M Rayner BA(Hons) NPQH

3rd November 2020

Dear Parent/Carer,

At St. Thomas More Catholic Academy we pride ourselves in giving every child the opportunity to be successful and model our values of Faith, Excellence and Respect. As part of our continuing drive to improve standards within the academy we have made some significant changes to aid parental engagement and to reward positive behaviour whilst informing you when a child makes a choice not to meet academy expectations.

As a school we have made some amendments to the rewards system for when students model excellent attitudes to learning in the classroom or academy, complete independent work to a high standard or demonstrate outstanding contribution in one of the many enrichment opportunities on offer at St. Thomas More Catholic Academy.

Every lesson your child will have the opportunity to earn rewards points for their outstanding contribution or work in the class. The reward system links directly with the St Thomas More SIMS app and will send an instant notification to your device to inform you of your child's outstanding work / progress.

How can a student earn rewards?

- R1 In lessons – excellent work / contribution
- R2 Completing Homework / Remote learning to a high standard
- R3 Enrichment opportunities e.g. representing the academy

If you have not downloaded the SIMS app, we would urge you to do to help celebrate your child's success.



Apple: <https://apps.apple.com/gb/app/sims-parent/id1106452691>

Android: https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=uk.co.capita.sims.mobile.parentapp&hl=en_GB

In addition, we have streamlined the behaviour system with posters in all classrooms to remind students of the academy expectations in lesson and around the school. Similar to the rewards system it links directly to the SIMS app and again will give you daily updates on your child. The behaviour system helps the students focus on the positive and at each stage gives the students an opportunity to "fix the behaviour" rather than escalating it. The first stage is set within the classroom including verbal warnings and a potential "short break / dinner" detention (depending on the time of the lesson).





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As part of the new system you will receive daily updates on your child's day including both Rewards and Sanctions (B System - details below). There is no need to contact the academy on a daily basis, however if you would like to speak to a member of the team please raise any concerns via the Head of Year. It will allow you to gain a broader insight to the school day and offer greater opportunity for dialogue about their school day, ultimately supporting their progress in school.

On the rare occasion that a student chooses not to "fix" the behaviour they will receive a B3 and they will be removed from the lesson to avoid further disruption for the other students in the class.

They will also receive a same day detention. This will be up to 1 hour but will normally be 30 minutes. We will contact you by 2.10 if this has happened. This will allow a consequence to be issued on the same day and a fresh start to commence the following day.

What happens if a student misbehaves in lessons?

- Initial conversation about the unwanted behaviour
- B1 Student fails to "fix" leading to verbal warning
- B2 Short detention with classroom teacher
- B3 Lesson Remove
- B4 Fixed Term Inclusion - 5 hours non negotiable
- B5 Fixed Term Exclusion

How can a student avoid escalating their behaviour?

- Thinking time
- Listen to the advice / follow the rules
- Co-operate with the member of staff / do not challenge
- Avoid the unwanted behaviour

Will the standards stay the same?

- The same high standards and expectations apply
- From September full school uniform will be expected - we have been advised that staff and students are safe to wear blazers and jackets
- Hair style and colour will need to comply with our uniform rules
- Our rewards system will run as normal
- Detentions and the lesson remove system will run as normal with students from different year groups separated and distanced
- In addition to our normal expectations we expect students to follow additional rules including:
 - Complying with the 'bubbles', zones and entry/exit points
 - Never coughing intentionally both in isolation and intentionally around other people or intentionally touching another person with the sole purpose of putting that person at risk
 - Not sharing food and drink bottles
 - Not moving from their desk without permission





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All are expected to

- Follow the 'Catch It, Bin It, Kill It' guidance
- Follow good hand hygiene procedures (washing and using hand gel regularly)
- Follow social distancing measures in school when not in their bubble and as they travel to and from school.

If any student does not meet these expectations severe school sanctions will be put in place in order to protect the safety of all our community. As always, we look forward to support in helping your child to fulfil their potential.

Yours sincerely,

Mr P Shufflebotham

Deputy Headteacher

