



ST THOMAS MORE

CATHOLIC SCHOOL



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Regis Servus Dei Prins



Doing the right thing,
for the right reasons



WELCOME *From the Head Teacher*

A community where every individual is valued,
loved, and inspired to become the very best
version of themselves.

It is with heartfelt warmth that I welcome you to St Thomas More Catholic School. I hope that through these pages, you gain a true sense of who we are—a community rooted in love, guided by faith, and committed to the flourishing of every child.

At the heart of our school is the Gospel message of love—love for God, love for one another, and love for learning. Our Catholic identity is not just something we celebrate; it is something we live daily. It shapes our relationships, informs our decisions, and inspires us to nurture the God-given potential in every member of our community.

We are proud to be part of the Bishop Wilkinson Catholic Education Trust, working in partnership to provide an education that embraces the whole person. At St Thomas More, academic excellence is pursued with purpose, but always within the wider context of each child's unique gifts, dignity, and calling.

Our mission is deeply inspired by our patron saint, St Thomas More—a man of deep faith, unwavering integrity, and moral courage. He stood firmly for what was right, even in the face of great personal cost. His example encourages us to act with conscience, to speak with truth, and to lead with strength and humility. His legacy challenges us all—staff and pupils alike—to live with principle and purpose.

We believe that every individual is created in the image of God and called to a life of service, love, and hope. That belief drives everything we do. Our school is a place where faith is alive and love is practiced; where children are not only educated but cherished.

While our values are rooted in the Catholic faith, our doors are open to families of all faiths—and indeed, to those of no faith. Everyone is welcomed, loved, and respected here. We believe that the richness of our community is strengthened by the diversity of the families who choose to walk this journey with us.

As Head Teacher, I am deeply proud of our school family. It is a place where compassion, integrity, and excellence come together, creating a vibrant and caring community. Our young people are supported and challenged to grow into kind, capable, and faithful individuals who are ready to make a difference in the world.

St Thomas More is more than just a school—it is a place where every pupil is known, loved, and valued. It is a place of joy, hope, and deep belonging.

We would be delighted to welcome you in person and show you what makes our school so special.

Leaders have created a climate of high ambition at the school.

OFSTED 2023





OUR MISSION

*Rooted in Faith,
Guided by Integrity.*

At St Thomas More Catholic School, our mission is the cornerstone of our community. It is shaped by Gospel values and our commitment to educating the whole child—intellectually, morally, spiritually, and emotionally.

The Gospel calls us to love our neighbour, to serve others selflessly, and to act with compassion and justice. These values are not abstract ideals but living principles that guide the daily life of our school. Whether in the classroom, on the sports field, or in service to the wider community, we strive to do the right thing for the right reason.

Our mission statement recognises the profound dignity of every individual: each person is unique, created in the image of God, and capable of achieving their full potential—whatever that may be. This belief inspires our work with pupils, staff, and families alike, helping all members of our community grow in confidence, wisdom, and faith.

THE **MISSION** OF ST THOMAS MORE SCHOOL
IS TO **DEVELOP** EACH MEMBER OF THE SCHOOL **COMMUNITY**
SO THAT EVERYONE INVOLVED CAN **REACH** THEIR
FULL **POTENTIAL** IN THE **LIGHT** OF THE TEACHING
OF **CHRIST** AND THE **VALUES** PORTRAYED IN THE **GOSPELS**

OUR MOTTO

Regis Servus Dei Prins

'The King's good servant,
but God's first'

These powerful words, spoken by our patron St Thomas More as he faced martyrdom in 1535, continue to inspire our school community. They remind us that integrity, conscience, and faith must come before convenience or worldly success.

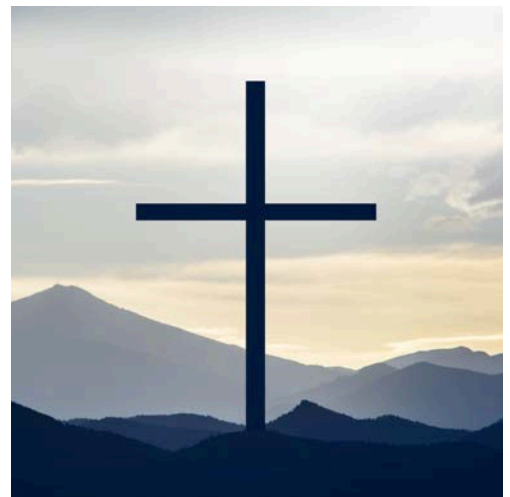
St Thomas More's example—his courage, humility, and commitment to truth—remains a guiding light for us. As a school, we seek to honour his legacy by nurturing young people who live with purpose, stand up for what is right, and put their faith into action.

Our motto reminds us that education is not only about academic achievement but about forming people of strong character, who value service above self and who understand their role in building a just and compassionate world.

At St Thomas More, we aim not only to teach but to transform. Our mission is to ensure every pupil is known, loved, and supported to grow into the person God calls them to be.

The school prepares pupils to become respectful and active citizens. Pupils take on leadership roles, including those in the sixth form. This allows pupils to live the school's motto of doing 'the right things for the right reasons', which applies to all members of the school.

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THE STM *Experience*

A calm, caring, and connected community.

Being part of the St Thomas More Catholic School community is a truly enriching experience—for pupils, staff, and families alike. Our school is far more than just a building; it is a place of belonging, purpose, and shared values. It is a community rooted in love, united by faith, and committed to the flourishing of each individual.

We are proud to be a caring school where both academic achievement and personal wellbeing are held in the highest regard. Pupils are supported to reach their full potential in a nurturing environment that celebrates effort, encourages ambition, and honours every step of personal growth.

St Thomas More is a calm, purposeful, and orderly school. In every classroom and corridor, there is a shared understanding of what it means to learn and grow together. High expectations are woven into the fabric of school life—not just in terms of academic standards, but in behaviour, attitude, and kindness. We believe every pupil deserves to learn in a safe and respectful environment, and we are unwavering in upholding those standards.

Respect is not simply encouraged; it is lived. We speak to our pupils with dignity and expect the same in return. This mutual respect creates a culture of consistency and fairness, where children feel secure, known, and valued.

We recognise that a school is not made of walls and timetables alone. What makes St Thomas More special is the spirit of its people—the relationships, the care, and the sense of shared mission. It is a place where everyone matters, where love is shown through action, and where no one is left behind.

Staff and pupils alike contribute to the life of the school with a deep sense of pride and belonging. Whether in lessons, assemblies, clubs, or moments of quiet reflection, there is a real sense of unity and purpose. We are a community that looks out for one another, celebrates each other's successes, and stands together in times of challenge.

In every sense, the St Thomas More experience is about more than education—it is about formation. It is about preparing young people to live not just successful lives, but meaningful ones, shaped by faith, compassion, and integrity.

Strong relationships exist between staff and pupils.

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EDUCATING THE *Whole Child*

At St Thomas More Catholic School, the personal development of every pupil is at the very heart of our mission. We believe that education is not just about academic success, but about shaping well-rounded individuals who are prepared to live with purpose and integrity.

Our personal development curriculum is as important as our academic curriculum and is designed to complement and enhance it. We offer a balanced approach that addresses not only the statutory requirements but also the specific needs of our pupils and their broader context. This curriculum is centred around key themes that align with the values of our school and the wider society, including SMSC (spiritual, moral, social, and cultural development), British Values, Citizenship, Relationships & Sex Education, and the development of protected characteristics.

The Pastoral Programme

A core element of our approach to educating the whole child is our Pastoral Programme. The pastoral care of our pupils is a priority, and we recognise the importance of building strong, supportive relationships. Every pupil is assigned a tutor who becomes their main point of contact, providing guidance, support, and a listening ear throughout their time at St Thomas More. This relationship is foundational to ensuring that each pupil feels known, valued, and cared for.

The school prepares pupils to become respectful and active citizens.

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Each day at St Thomas More begins with pastoral time. This is a dedicated time when pupils engage with their tutor on a set theme, ensuring that important personal and social issues are regularly addressed in a structured and thoughtful way. Our consistent approach ensures that all pupils are supported in developing the skills needed to navigate life's challenges, make responsible decisions, and thrive in their personal and academic lives.

Extra-Curricular Opportunities

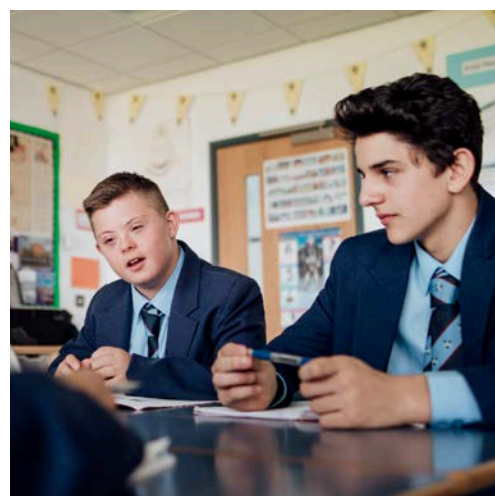
We are extremely proud of the extensive and diverse range of extracurricular activities we offer our pupils. At St Thomas More, we believe that education extends far beyond the classroom, and that involvement in extracurricular activities plays a vital role in the personal development of every child. These activities provide valuable experiences that help pupils build confidence, discover new talents, and develop social and leadership skills that will serve them throughout their lives.

We make it our aim to encourage all pupils to engage in at least one extracurricular club when they join the school. Our **Pastoral Programme** actively promotes this, and our tutors encourage pupils to explore the various clubs and activities available to them. We believe that engaging in these opportunities helps pupils develop a sense of community, belonging, and responsibility.

We believe that our extracurricular programme not only enhances pupils' academic life but also helps them to grow as well-rounded individuals, equipped with the skills and experiences needed to succeed in all aspects of life.

Pupils benefit from a range of extra-curricular activities.

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ACADEMIC *Excellence*

"Academic excellence is not a destination; it is a journey that we embark on together, where every pupil is empowered to achieve their best and develop a lifelong love of learning."

At St Thomas More Catholic School, we are committed to providing a high-quality education that not only fosters academic achievement but also cultivates a lifelong love of learning. We believe that every pupil has the potential to excel, and our curriculum is designed with this in mind, ensuring that all pupils enjoy and engage with their learning. Our approach to curriculum design is rooted in research into the most effective ways that pupils learn. This evidence-based approach ensures that we implement strategies that have been proven to enhance learning outcomes, allowing us to offer a structured, purposeful, and consistent experience across all subjects. We focus on delivering high-quality lessons that challenge and inspire our pupils, ensuring they develop the skills and knowledge required for academic success.

Pupils at St Thomas More thrive in a learning environment where they feel supported and challenged to push their boundaries. We aim to make every lesson an opportunity for engagement, with pupils actively participating, asking questions, and taking pride in their academic progress. Our consistent approach to curriculum delivery ensures that pupils not only understand what they are learning but also understand how it connects to their future learning.

Leaders have developed a broad, balanced and inclusive curriculum.

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A Shared Language for Learning

Our curriculum is built upon a shared understanding of the key principles that support effective learning. To create clarity and consistency across the school, we use a common vocabulary that staff and pupils alike can use to discuss, debate, and implement our approach to teaching and learning. This shared language helps to ensure that all pupils are clear about what they are learning, why it matters, and how it will help them to reach their full potential.

Key terms in our approach to learning include:

- Key Concepts
- Crucial Learning
- Make It Stick
- Performance Strand
- Learner Attributes

Building Confidence and Autonomy

A key aim of our curriculum is to ensure that pupils develop a deep understanding of the learning process itself. We want our pupils to be confident, autonomous learners who are able to take ownership of their own progress. By developing a strong understanding of how learning works, pupils are better equipped to reflect on their strengths, identify areas for improvement, and take the necessary steps to move forward.

The common language of learning used at St Thomas More is a powerful tool in helping pupils to understand the progress they are making. This consistent framework allows pupils to track their own development, understand what they have learned, and see where they are going next. It also encourages a culture of reflection, where pupils are actively involved in evaluating their own learning journey and setting goals for their future success.

Pupils benefit from a range of extra-curricular activities.

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Scaffolding for Success

We recognise that the curriculum at St Thomas More is both rigorous and challenging. To ensure that every pupil can access and thrive in this environment, we use scaffolding as a key strategy. Scaffolding involves providing structured support at the right level, to allow pupils to engage with complex material, gradually building their confidence and independence as they move forward.

This tailored support may include a variety of strategies, such as breaking down tasks into smaller, manageable steps, providing additional explanations, using visual aids, or offering extended time for certain tasks. By carefully adjusting our teaching to meet the needs of individual pupils, we enable them to navigate challenging concepts and develop the skills required to succeed in all areas of their learning.



Pupils with SEND are well supported in the school.

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PUPIL

Testimonials

When asked what there favourite thing about St Thomas More:

'The pride that comes with it'

'We have people to talk to if we are feeling worried about something'

'I feel safe and excited'

'Having the independence and being part of a caring community'

'Having a variety of fun lessons with fun teachers'

'Making new friends and getting more opportunities to do new things'

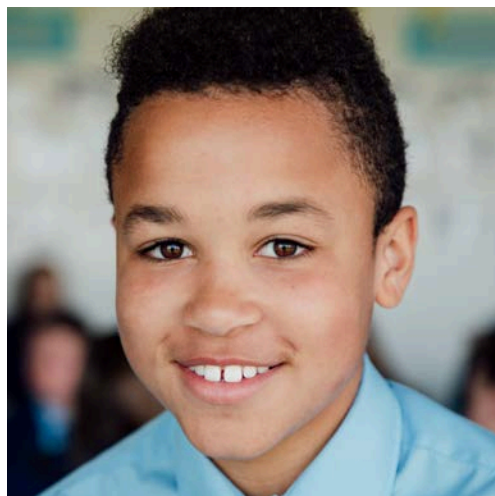
'We have a lot of opportunities and are free to learn about ourselves and reach our full potentials with help and support'

'You become more independent and learn a lot of new things.'

'Meeting new people and having more chances to do different things.'

'Everyone is kind and welcoming'

'The opportunities I get to shine.'



PARENT

Testimonials

'As a mother I say proudly she attends St Thomas More, Thank you'

'Really big thank you to the learning support team at Thomas More. Excellent communication and support '

'Proactive and quick actions when I rang regarding an issue'

'Staff are very approachable and listen.'

'The Head of House for my child is just incredible and so very supportive.'

'The transition process was well planned and very helpful'

'We have been delighted with how she has settled in and that she is enjoying school. She has made friends and has received so many positive comments from staff that this has really boosted our daughter's confidence - thank you!'

'Good communication from school to parents and children alike.'

'My daughter has settled in really well to STM and is especially enthusiastic about the praise postcard system and the cause for applause.'



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