



Bishop Thomas Grant

11-18 Catholic Co-educational School



INSTAURARE
OMNIA IN CHRISTO

To unite all things in Christ



“THE SCHOOL PROVIDES
OUTSTANDING OPPORTUNITIES
FOR STUDENTS' SPIRITUAL,
MORAL, SOCIAL AND CULTURAL
DEVELOPMENT.”

- OFSTED

WELCOME TO BISHOP THOMAS GRANT SCHOOL



Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome to Bishop Thomas Grant School. We are a happy and successful Catholic community where year on year, students consistently achieve outstanding results enabling them to move on to the next stage in their journey whilst we support their personal, spiritual, and academic growth.

The Bishop Thomas Grant School community is blessed with experienced and talented staff; a supportive Governing Body; a strong community network of parents, parishes and primary schools; and a wonderful student body.

At Bishop Thomas Grant we have a long-standing tradition of being a fully inclusive Catholic community. Our curriculum is designed to meet the needs of all our students, challenging, inspiring, and motivating them to aim high, work hard, and fulfil their potential.

We expect all our students to make exceptional academic progress. We inculcate in them the importance of hard work, good manners, smart appearance, courtesy, co-operation and service to others at all times.

In this ever-changing world, the school continues to evolve and adapt. Our students receive a broad and balanced education and through an extensive enrichment and extra-curricular programme, we ensure that they develop as confident, resilient, and well-rounded individuals who move on to higher education or employment, with the skills and a foundation which enables them to confidently take their place in society.

Our school motto 'To unite all things in Christ' enables our young people to become responsible Christian adults rooted in Gospel values and inspired by the message of Jesus Christ, in order that they contribute effectively to society by promoting justice, honesty, and charity in all aspects of their lives.

Bishop Thomas Grant is a warm and welcoming community with a special atmosphere. We hope that after visiting us you experience something of that and will want your sons and daughters to be part of our school community too.

Yours sincerely,

Bernadette Boyle
Headteacher

OUR HISTORY

The school was established in 1959 and built in memory of Thomas Grant, the first Bishop of Southwark.

Bishop Thomas Grant School has a long standing tradition of being a fully inclusive Catholic school welcoming children of all abilities.

The main school building was built in the shape of a cross with our school chapel placed at its centre to signify that we place Christ at the heart of everything that we do in our school.

Over the years there have been many additions to our school site as we have grown and adapted to the changing needs of the community we serve. Since 1959, thousands of young people have benefited from a Bishop Thomas Grant education, with many continuing as part of our community long after they have left.



“PARENTS AND CARERS HOLD THE SCHOOL IN VERY HIGH REGARD AND BELIEVE THAT THEIR CHILDREN ARE LOOKED AFTER EXTREMELY WELL.”

- OFSTED



AN OUTSTANDING CATHOLIC EDUCATION

School Aims

At Bishop Thomas Grant, we make no distinction between the academic, pastoral or spiritual development of our students.

Our aim is to see the total person and provide a strong, invisible, yet tangible network of support and guidance. We recognise that a well founded pastoral system provides a solid framework where students feel safe and able to learn. Our pastoral system encourages self discipline, high expectations, respect for self and for others.

There are four principles that should govern a student's experience at Bishop Thomas Grant. These are to:

- BE HAPPY
- BE SAFE
- ACHIEVE
- GROW IN THE LOVE OF CHRIST
AND YOUR FAITH

Without the first two, optimum learning and achievement cannot take place, while the fourth means that the strong ethos of the school creates an environment which is conducive to effective learning, and each individual's potential being realised. At Bishop Thomas Grant, we prepare our students to become fully involved in the life of the Church, helping them to grow into mature, informed Catholics.

Each form class begins the day with a prayer. We pray for our community and ask God's help in fulfilling his plan for us. All lessons begin with a prayer and students are encouraged to lead the prayers and share their intentions. This, along with a planned programme of assemblies and Masses encourages all students to grow in their love and understanding of their faith.

CARE & SUPPORT

Pastoral care is very strong at Bishop Thomas Grant School. Young people need to feel safe and secure in order to thrive academically and socially, and our pastoral team works hard to ensure that this is the case and to help students and their families deal with problems if and when they arise.

“THE SCHOOL PROVIDES OUTSTANDING PASTORAL SUPPORT. THIS HELPS ALL STUDENTS TO REMAIN ENGAGED AND MOTIVATED TO LEARN.”

- OFSTED

The pastoral system is organised into a year group system, which includes Form Tutors, Heads of Year, our Special Educational Needs and Gifted and Talented Co-ordinators, Learning Mentors and external counsellors. The whole system is overseen by the senior leader responsible for the pastoral care at the school.

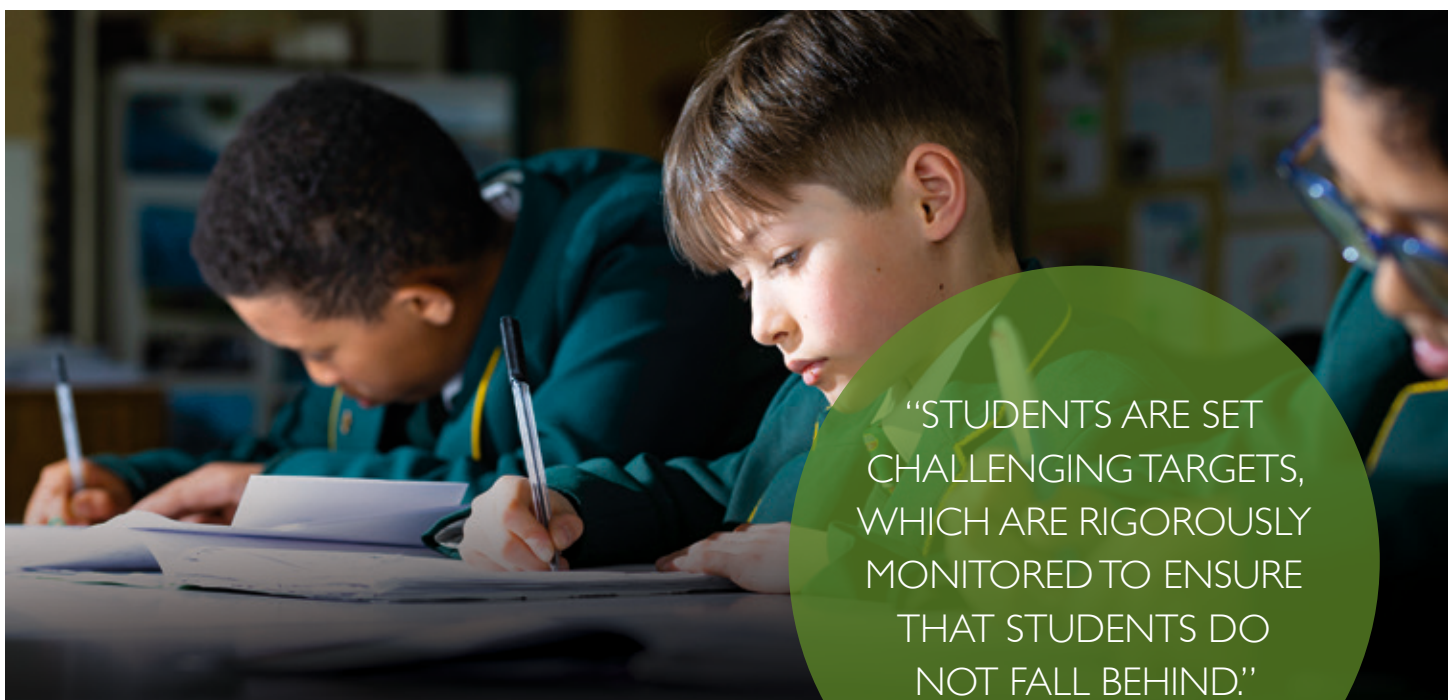
Students are organised into tutor groups, within their year groups, with a tutor who will usually look after the group for the whole of their time at school. Every student is encouraged to have a voice and we ensure that they know who to turn to for support whether academic, social or personal.

A 'house' system operates at our school. In Year 7, all students are placed in one of our four houses: Matthew, Mark, Luke, or John. Throughout the school year, students attend house assemblies and take part in house related activities. Sports day is an inter-house event that generates great enthusiasm within the school community.

We also have a 'Points' reward system in place, whereby students are given reward points for a variety of achievements. Each student's points total contributes to the overall points total for their house and house events are organised to recognise the efforts made by successful houses.

From the moment that students join Bishop Thomas Grant, students are encouraged to contribute to the decision making in the school through their contributions to student voice with a thriving school council, prefect system, house representatives, and student mentors.





“STUDENTS ARE SET CHALLENGING TARGETS, WHICH ARE RIGOROUSLY MONITORED TO ENSURE THAT STUDENTS DO NOT FALL BEHIND.”

- OFSTED

THE CURRICULUM

At Bishop Thomas Grant School, we believe passionately, that every student must access a modern curriculum that is fit for purpose, stretching, enjoyable and that equips them with skills and knowledge for the future.

The curriculum at Bishop Thomas Grant is a framework for setting out the knowledge and understanding which is gained at each key stage. It provides a structure which allows for an evaluation of what knowledge and understanding students have gained against expectations. It is also about everything the children do, see, hear or feel in their setting which is both planned and unplanned.

At Bishop Thomas Grant our curriculum is not just about the subjects on the timetable, but is about the whole experience of education. We clearly set out expectations and an ethos which expects all of our students to engage with extra-curricular, charity, religious, assemblies and community events. Our curriculum is about ensuring that we are eager to engage in discussion, knowledge and understanding, and that our teachers model this behaviour for our students.

Students' progress is tracked carefully with specially tailored enrichment for our Gifted and Talented cohort, and challenging targets set for children of all abilities.

Our aim is to provide a broad and balanced curriculum where we offer our students a wide range of subjects for as long as possible, ensuring that there is enough time on the timetable to provide for the balanced curriculum.

We place great emphasis upon independent study and homework. We regard it as an essential extension of school work and a valuable life-skill. All students have additional learning to complete each evening and parents are provided with a homework timetable. Parental support and involvement are highly valued: working in partnership achieves the very best support for the children and their families.

Creativity and challenge are key elements in our teaching and we want our learners of today to be thoughtful, astute and resilient as they live out the gospel values in their chosen fields for the future.



ASSESSMENT

Assessment and reporting are undertaken thoroughly and are reported formally at three assessment points during the year and during Parents' Consultations.

Students are given attainment targets to achieve in every subject for each year and progress is reviewed against these regularly. We use a range of intervention strategies to support students who need additional guidance.

Staff work to ensure that every student not only makes expected progress, but aims to exceed expectations. We achieve the highest standards of academic achievement.

Our school is a community and a family. It is important to us that we know each student personally and that we prepare them for the next stage of their education, careers, and futures. We want them to achieve excellent qualifications and skills and to be the very best in everything that they aspire to achieve.



BEYOND THE CLASSROOM

Achieving excellent results must be a priority for all students but we also encourage everyone to involve themselves in other activities, so that their time with us will be challenging, enjoyable and productive in all ways.

Education is about much more than examinations. Life at Bishop Thomas Grant is always busy and exciting. We offer a vast enrichment programme for all students from Year 7 to Year 13 ranging from sporting activities, music clubs, choirs, orchestra, language clubs and debating with new clubs being added each year. Students participate in the school production run jointly by the Music and Drama departments and regularly participate in public speaking competitions and theatre trips. The standard of Music at the school is exceptional and our choirs have toured locally, nationally and internationally.



Our students have many opportunities to participate in day and residential trips both at home and abroad. The Duke of Edinburgh Award scheme is popular, with many students aged 14-18 achieving Bronze and Silver Awards by the end of Year 12 and beginning their Gold Award in Year 13. Our excellence in the sporting world too enables our students to compete abroad on sports tours.



“THE DYNAMIC AND CAREFULLY PLANNED CURRICULUM IS WELL MATCHED TO THE NEEDS OF STUDENTS AND IS SUCCESSFULLY TAILORED TO MEET THE NEEDS OF DIFFERENT ABILITIES.”

- OFSTED

AN 11-18 EXPERIENCE

Our Key Stage 4 curriculum is carefully planned to enable students to progress into the Sixth Form where the majority of our students stay on to study.

The school offers a wide range of A levels and vocational courses. Most of our students continue their education at University or Colleges of Further Education when they leave us at 18. Sixth Form students are a vital part of our school community and have positions of responsibility as House Captains and Head Boy/Head Girl. They also organise events for younger students and help with their learning, both in the classroom and as mentors through our buddy programme.

A careers adviser works with all students in the school providing advice and guidance throughout their school career and guides them towards their eventual transition to university or employment. Our students leave as young men and women ready to take their place in the world. A separate Sixth Form prospectus is available regarding Post-16 provision at our school.

“BTG IS NOT JUST A
SCHOOL; IMMEDIATELY
IT BECOMES A FAMILY,
A SECOND HOME.
I HAVE HAD SOME
OF THE GREATEST
MOMENTS OF MY
LIFE HERE.”

- STUDENT





“RELATIONSHIPS BETWEEN PUPILS
AND STAFF ARE EXCELLENT AND
ARE BASED ON MUTUAL RESPECT
AND A BELIEF THAT THEY ARE THERE
TO SERVE RATHER THAN BE SERVED.”

- SECTION 48 DIOCESAN INSPECTION



Bishop Thomas Grant

11–18 Catholic Co-educational School

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