



ST THOMAS A BECKET R C PRIMARY SCHOOL

COMMUNITY COHESION POLICY

DATE OF LAST REVIEW: **JANUARY 2020**

AGREED BY GOVERNORS: **JANUARY 2020**

SHARED WITH ALL STAFF: **JANUARY 2020**

FREQUENCY OF REVIEW: **ANNUALLY**

DATE OF NEXT REVIEW: **JANUARY 2021**

OUR MISSION STATEMENT

St Thomas a Becket School is a primary school of the Roman Catholic diocese of Southwark.

The aim of the school is to offer excellence of education in accordance with the teaching of the church and to value and develop each child's potential in a community in which every member is fully respected.

We try to ensure that this is done by:

- praying together
- valuing the experiences of each member of the community
- being a caring, forgiving community
- living and working and playing together
- by encouraging the children to achieve the best of their ability

COMMUNITY COHESION

We ensure that all members of the school community understand others by:

- our clear policies and procedures
- sharing our policy and practice with parents and pupils ~ our Aide Memoire identifies our key issues for action
- regular communication through Headlines
- highlighting the needs of others by supporting, for example, the Bishop's Lent Call and Harvest appeals
- valuing the diversity of our staff and the contributions they can make to the life of our school

We make a positive contribution in valuing diversity by:

- Valuing the identity of our pupils
- The celebration of multi-cultural events and Black History Weeks
- Supporting charity fund raising
- Giving our Behaviour Policy a high profile and ensuring that all pupils feel safe and secure.

Our school ethos promotes community cohesion by:

- Valuing Christ in everyone ~ both in and out of school
- Identifying explicit agreed values
- The sense of belonging we have established within our community
- The way in which our pupils demonstrate our values
- Our involvement in the Extended School's Cluster

- Our curriculum involvement with local secondary schools.
- The active involvement of senior staff in the development of LA, Cluster and Diocesan initiatives.
- Our links for staff and pupils in the Church Schools' Cluster

We have taken the following steps to ensure that barriers to access for all are removed:

- The implementation of a locally agreed Admissions Policy
- The implementation of appropriate equality policies
- Rigorous monitoring of sub group progress

We enable positive relationships between groups by:

- Providing opportunities for leadership by pupils
- Encouraging parents to come in to school in formal and informal situations
- The use of Circle Time and the SEAL project

We engage with the local community by:

- Regularly attending worship at our local church
- Publicising church events
- Inviting local visitors in to work with the pupils
- Involved in supporting local community centre - singing at Christmas
- Work with local Secondary schools to provide work experience.
- Provide placement for parents to complete N.Q.V's in child care

We increase pupils' understanding of UK and global communities by:

- Responding, as appropriate, to world events
- Teaching about other faiths and beliefs

Our evaluation of our contribution to community cohesion informs future planning through:

- Pupil and Staff Voice
- Monitoring the attendance of parents at school events/responses to surveys
- Self-evaluation being embedded in our practice