



THOMAS'S FULHAM COMMUNITIES POLICY

INTRODUCTION

Our curriculum promotes the spiritual, moral, social and cultural (SMSC) development of our pupils, preparing them for the opportunities, responsibilities and experiences of later life.

We aim to be a thriving, cohesive community, with a socially responsible, empathetic attitude. Our School Values underpin this, most particularly: kindness, courtesy, respect, humility and being givers, not takers.

It is our duty to address issues of 'how we live together' and 'dealing with difference', acknowledging that we live in a community which is diverse in terms of culture, faith, ethnicity and social backgrounds.

Please refer to two documents 'ISSP Record' and "From Local to Global'.

AIMS

We aim to promote strong and positive, mutually beneficial relationships in the school community and beyond.

Community from a School's Perspective

For schools, the term 'community' has a number of dimensions including:

- our school community – our pupils, their families and our staff
- the local community – the school's locality, the area and people who live or work in that area
- the community of Britain
- the global community

Promoting community cohesion

An energetic PTA supports the life of Thomas's Fulham. Our parent body is very committed to helping the school in many capacities as volunteer helpers and charity fundraising

Broadly, our contribution to community cohesion can be grouped as below:

- **Teaching, learning and curriculum** – we promote our School Values, fundamental British Values; teach pupils to value difference and diversity; promote awareness of human rights and of the responsibility to uphold and defend them, and develop the skills of participation and responsible action, e.g.

- The importance of pupil voice through the Prep and Lower School Councils and the Green Team (sustainability).
 - Be Extra Kind event: all pupils are off timetable and work in mixed year group classes exploring related issues together such as bullying, mental health, school values.
 - Learning for Life/L4L (PSHCE) is taught as a discrete lesson and SMSC is interwoven throughout our curriculum – see also Policies listed below and our Assemblies programme.
- **Thomas's Foundation (TF)**
 - Thomas's Foundation is the philanthropic arm of Thomas's London Day Schools. It delivers and oversees four key projects:
 - Foundation Bursaries – offering bursaries to pupils to attend Thomas's London Day Schools
 - Community Partnerships – providing programmes to meet the needs of local primary aged children in the neighbourhoods of TLDS
 - The CAIRN Trust – supporting and enriching the education of children in rural Nepal
 - Thomas's Academy – providing support and collaboration between the Academy and TLDS
 - **Engagement** – to provide a means for children and their families to be involved in the local community and develop knowledge and understanding of wider communities, developing links where possible. e.g.
 - Community Days (all pupils in Year 5 and 6 spend time making a difference in the community at organisations such as the Hammersmith & Fulham Foodbank, Age UK, reading in local Primary Schools, St Dionis Church and South Park)
 - We have strong ISSP (independent/state school partnerships) Refer to ISSP Record
 - Throughout the Thomas's Foundation (TF) we run a volunteer parent reading scheme whereby parents come into school to hear pupils read, and groups of them do the same in local primary schools
 - Active charity work, eg Grenfell fire response
 - Links are developed and sustained between the school and groups/services in the local community, eg Reception children visiting the Hammersmith and Fulham Age UK day centre/Thomas's Players performing at a local sheltered housing unit
 - Regular drives are held to collect and donate practical items such as shoes and clothing to local schools and families
 - Pupils and staff from local schools are invited to Thomas's Fulham for academic enrichment experiences, eg. sessions in the Science labs for local Year 6 students. This also allows staff members to link with their counterparts from local schools and share good practice

See also: [Charity Policy](#), [PSHCE policy](#), [SMSC Policy](#)

This policy will be reviewed annually and/or when necessary			
Created: September 2013	By:	Paul Wild, Deputy Head and Annette Dobson, Head	
Latest Review: January 2020	By:	Danielle Taylor, Assistant Head	Changes made

Next Review: January 2021	By:	Danielle Taylor, Assistant Head	Changes made
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