



# Thomas's

## KINDERGARTEN

### OUR AIMS

Our aim is to ensure that each child in our care aspires to fulfil his or her potential. We would like every pupil to become the best that he or she can be.

At the Kindergarten, we aim to offer a rich and broad education, which inspires enjoyment, learning and achievement. We nurture motivated learners who embrace challenge. We expect every member of the Kindergarten community to 'Be Kind'.

#### A BROAD CURRICULUM

- In narrow terms, our remit is to prepare our pupils thoroughly for the entrance process of their chosen school.
- We believe, though, that we have a much wider responsibility than this.
- We believe that we are preparing children not only for their schools, but also for the life that lies beyond them.
- Our curriculum enables our pupils, boys and girls, to make outstanding progress, which fully supports them to move on to the next stage of their education.
- We regard these Kindergarten years as forming the foundation on which our pupils will build their future education and future lives. We are mindful of the fact that our pupils' experience of school and of life at this early age will in large measure shape the adults that they will become.
- During their time with us, we therefore aim to give our pupils an education which is both rich and broad.
- We place a strong emphasis on the three prime areas of the Early Years Foundation Stage (Personal, Social and Emotional Development, Communication and Language, Physical Development) as well as the four Specific areas (Literacy, Mathematics, Understanding the World, Expressive Arts and Design) set within a broad curriculum.
- Furthermore, we are committed to running a strong and varied programme of outdoor learning, trips, clubs and visitors to enrich the educational experience of our pupils.

#### BE KIND

- The Kindergarten is open to children of all faiths.
- The most important school rule, which applies to every member of the school community, is to 'Be Kind'.
- Our ethos, aims and values actively support the upholding of democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty, mutual respect and tolerance of different faiths and beliefs. These are British values which we cherish and which equip pupils for life in modern Britain.
- We aim to engender an ethos of kindness, encouragement and understanding, in which pupils' strengths are developed and their areas for development supported, so that each child is challenged without being inhibited.
- We expect our pupils to make impressive progress as a result of their own hard work, the best efforts their teachers, the judicious support of their parents and the encouragement of their peers.

**The Headmistress**  
**Thomas's Kindergarten**

# BE KIND





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## KINDERGARTEN

### OUR VALUES

#### **KINDNESS**

We expect pupils at Thomas's to be kind; to be good friends to those around them, always on the lookout for those in need of a word of encouragement or a listening ear. We expect our pupils not just to tolerate but to celebrate difference, including faith, beliefs and culture.

#### **COURTESY**

We expect our pupils to be courteous and polite; to have regard for the needs of others; to be responsible for the impact of their behaviour on those around them; to say "please" and "thank you" without prompting.

#### **HONESTY**

We expect our pupils to be honest, to act with integrity at all times and to understand the rule of law.

#### **RESPECT**

We encourage all members of the community to respect themselves, each other, their learning environment and the wider community; to respect the right of others to hold differing beliefs or views and to develop an awareness of individual liberty.

#### **PERSEVERANCE**

We would like our pupils to appreciate the importance of, and to show, perseverance; to acquire a 'growth mindset' by understanding that intelligence can be developed; to embrace challenges; to persist in the face of setbacks; to see effort as the path to mastery; to learn from criticism; to find lessons and inspiration in the success of others and, as a result, to reach ever-higher levels of achievement and a greater sense of free will.

#### **INDEPENDENCE**

We would like our pupils to become independent learners; to be responsible, organised and to manage their belongings effectively; to work hard; During group work, we would like them not only to make valid contributions, but also to be good listeners, who respect and encourage the efforts of their peers. We hope that, as a result of the varied activities at the Kindergarten, our pupils will begin to take responsibility for their own learning, making full use of the many excellent resources available to them.

As a result, we would like our pupils to gain a growing sense of enquiry and wonder about the world around them, asking as many questions as they like.

#### **CONFIDENCE**

We expect our pupils to acquire self-knowledge by encountering both success and failure in an environment of support and encouragement, both at school and at home. Consequently, they should feel 'comfortable in their own skin', full of self-confidence and able to make their own judgements. We would like our pupils to be the best version of themselves that they can be, not a second-hand version of someone else.

#### **LEADERSHIP**

We aim to equip our pupils to lead by example; to be the first to respond to someone in need; to stand up for what they believe to be right; to risk making an unpopular decision, if they believe it to be for the greater good; to earn the trust and respect of others.

#### **HUMILITY**

Notwithstanding their confidence, our pupils are expected to retain a sense of humility; to be conscious of the advantages they enjoy and to be grateful for them.

#### **GIVERS, NOT TAKERS**

Above all, we would like our pupils to be givers, not takers; to show generosity of spirit; to use their skills and talents first for the benefit of others. We hope that our pupils will leave the kindergarten with a strong sense of social responsibility, set on a path to become net contributors to society and to flourish as successful, conscientious and caring citizens of the world.

**The Headmistress  
Thomas's Kindergarten**

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