



St Thomas More Catholic Primary School

What are restorative approaches?

‘Creating positive outcomes from negative behaviour’

Restorative Approaches

At St Thomas More we use Restorative Approaches to improve behaviour and build community.

We hope this information will help you understand some of the things your child might come home and talk to you about.

They may tell you that their class are working together to build strong community and develop good language skills. To help do this we have introduced some new ideas such as check in feelings at the start of the day and after social times.

You might notice a difference in the language that is used in school. Restorative language is a fair, respectful way of speaking to one another and we expect everyone within school to use it and we hope that you will respect this when you come into school.

Pupils may participate in Restorative Justice processes if they are involved in conflict at school. This may involve:

- Discussing what has happened
- Looking at who has been affected or upset
- Deciding how it can be put right
- Finding a way forward that is fair to everyone

All children will be expected to take responsibility for their actions and will be supported where necessary through these processes.

The positive outcomes we have seen are:

- Joint responsibility resulting in resolution of the problem
- Acknowledgement of wrong doing
- Genuine apology
- Change of behaviour
- Friendship/relationships repaired
- Honesty due to the non-judgemental approach
- Shared strategy for a better future

REDUCE

- Exclusions
- Disruptive behaviour
- Conflict
- Bullying

IMPROVE

- Behaviour
- Learning
- Attendance

DEVELOP

- Truth Telling
- Responsibility
- Accountability
- Empathy
- Emotional Literacy
- Conflict Resolution Skills
- Positive Learning Environment

About Restorative Language

When pupils find themselves in conflict or upset we will ask them:-

What happened?

What were you feeling when it happened

What were you feeling when it happened?

What do you feel about it now?

What needs to happen to put this right?

What will you do differently next time?

We might also say to our pupils:-

What would you think if this happened to you?

What other choice could you have made?

How could you make sure this doesn't happen again?