



The Utopia Curriculum

Nursery – Year 6



Overview of Content

	Autumn 1	Autumn 2	Spring 1	Spring 2	Summer 1	Summer 2
All Year Groups From Nursery to Y6	Explicit teaching of the full Utopia curriculum content	Ongoing revision of content	Longer recap of Eutopia curriculum	Ongoing revision of content	Longer recap of Eutopia curriculum	Ongoing revision of content

Introduction

At St Thomas More, we develop children's character through the Utopia curriculum. In order to build character, we define the behaviours and habits that we expect students to demonstrate. We want to support our pupils to grow into adults who are polite, respectful, grateful and who put others before themselves. We believe that, as pupils practice these behaviours over time, they become habits that positively shape how they feel about themselves and how other people perceive them. As philosopher Paul Durant states, "We are what we repeatedly do. Excellence, then, is not an act, but a habit." (1926)

Teaching the Behaviour curriculum

The curriculum is taught explicitly during the first week in Autumn term alongside the traditional National Curriculum subjects. Children should learn the content of the curriculum so that they can recall the information and act upon it. At the start of each term, the Utopia curriculum is revisited with pupils and will continue to be reinforced throughout the year. As with other curriculum content, this should be taught using explicit teaching based on the 'Principles of Instruction' set out by Barak Rosenshine including regular quizzing to check and strengthen retention.

Teachers will also demonstrate these behaviours and ensure pupils have many opportunities to practice these (particularly in the first few days of each term). For example, a lining up order should be taught in the classroom but must be reinforced in different locations and times throughout the school day e.g. at lunchtime or playtime. It is expected that all pupils will know this content.

As Tom Bennett describes in 'Running The Room', the process for teaching behaviour explicitly is as follows -

1. Identify the routines you want to see
2. Communicate in detail your expectations
3. Practise the routines until everyone can do them
4. Reinforce, maintain and patrol the routines constantly

It is important that all staff know the details of this curriculum, teach it explicitly to pupils and continuously maintain the high standards we set. By doing so we support each other to create a culture where pupils feel safe and are able to learn in an optimised environment and where teachers are free to teach unimpeded.

Adaptations

While this curriculum is intended for all pupils it will be applied differently in different year groups depending on pupils' ages and may be applied differently depending on individual pupils' SEND needs. For example, pupils who have autistic spectrum conditions may find it very uncomfortable to maintain eye-contact with adults. Sensitivity must be applied at all times when teaching the behaviour curriculum.

Curriculum Content

Curriculum content to be covered in depth in Autumn Term 1 and revisited throughout the year

Our Pocket Principles

Know that there are three behaviour principles in school known as the **pocket principles**. These are to

- **be respectful,**
- **be responsible,**
- **be ready to learn.**

Know the following examples of these three principles –

Be Respectful	Be Responsible	Be Ready to Learn
<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Say please and thank you● Hold doors open for adults● Talk kindly to other pupils● Say good morning/ afternoon to adults	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Completing homework on time● Remembering to bring equipment to school● Tidying up your own workspace and the classroom● Accepting responsibility if you make a mistake and saying sorry	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Sitting still● Listening carefully to the teacher● Giving the teacher 100% of your attention● Working hard silently on tasks given● Being in the right place at the right time

Know that if you respect someone, you have a good opinion of their character or ideas.

Know that being responsible means being able to be trusted to do the right things that are expected of you without supervision.

Know that pupils who do not follow the pocket principles and the school rules will have a consequence for this.

Moving Around School

Know that we walk around school using **Fantastic Walking**

Know that Fantastic Walking means -

- Facing forwards,
- walking at a steady pace,
- in a straight line,
- with hands behind your back,
- without talking.

Know that when we move around school we walk on the left of the corridor

Know that we use Fantastic Walking to keep everyone safe in school and to make sure the learning of other children is not disrupted as people move around school.

Classroom routines

Know that we use **Fantastic Listening** in class. This means that we -

- **F**ace forwards, hands together
- **A**lways sit up straight
- **N**ever interrupt
- **T**rack the speaker

Know that we all use Fantastic Listening to ensure everybody is able to learn without distractions.

Know the order that you always line up in.

Know that when an adult counts down from 5 you should be sat silently with arms folded by the time they reach zero.

Know who you stand in front of and who is behind you.

Know that you should line up without leaning against the walls while moving around school.

Know the routine for entering the classroom and getting ready to work.

Know where you sit in class during lessons (including 'carpet places')

Know the routine for handing out and collecting exercise books in the classroom.

Know where to hang up your coat in the classroom.

Know that you should only go to the toilet at playtime or lunchtime or if you are ill during lessons. Know that you need to get equipment out ready for the lesson and to look after it.

Know that any deliberate damage to school equipment will incur a consequence.

Know how to put your hand up quietly to answer a question or participate in discussion.

Know that it is important to speak loudly and clearly in class when sharing answers so that everyone can hear.

Know that when you want help from an adult you raise your hand and wait quietly unless the teacher has indicated otherwise.
Know that verbal answers should usually be given in full sentences e.g. Who was Christopher Columbus? He was a famous explorer.
Know that, if we are using mini-whiteboards, we show our answers using the '3-2-1 Chin It' system where the board is placed under the chin.

Speaking in Class

Know that we use 'SHAPE your answer' to help us to speak clearly in class

Know that this stands for -

- **Sentences** - pupils know that they must answer in full sentences when appropriate
- **Hand away from mouth** - Pupils know that they must keep their hands away from their mouths while speaking
- **Articulate**- Pupils know that they must pronounce words clearly
- **Project** - Pupils know that they must speak with a voice which is loud enough for everyone in class to hear
- **Eye Contact** - Pupils know that it is polite to look at the person you are speaking to

Completing work in books

Know how to set out work in books according to the St Thomas More Presentation Policy (see separate document). Know that each piece of work needs a date (short date being 6 digits) and title.

Know that you must use 'one square, one digit' when writing in maths books.

Know how to underline titles using a ruler.

SHAPE your speech

Sentences – no single word answers

Hand away from mouth

Articulate – don't mumble

Project – a loud, clear voice

Eye contact

Know how to correct mistakes by drawing a straight line through your work.

Manners

Know that we use 'STEPS to politeness' at St Thomas More to make sure we are always polite to each other. Know that this stands for-

- **Sir and Miss** - pupils know that they must use Sir and Miss when talking to members of staff
- **Thank You** - pupils know that they should say 'thank you' when they receive something or someone does something nice for them.
- **Excuse Me** - pupils know that they should say 'excuse me' if someone is in their way
- **Please** - pupils know that they should always say 'please' when they are asking for something.
- **Smile** - pupils know that they should be positive and upbeat when talking to adults and each other

Know that you should let any waiting adults through a doorway before walking through yourself.

Know that you should say 'Good morning/afternoon Sir/Miss' to adults if spoken to.

Know that it is polite to ask questions such as "How are you today, Miss?", "Have you had a good morning, Sir?", "Did you have a good weekend, Miss?" or comment on the weather

Know that it is polite to give **eye contact** to the person you are talking to.

Know that it is important to show **gratitude** to others by thanking people for what they have done for you.

Know that it is important to have good manners so that people act politely back to you

Playtime Behaviour

Know that you must walk from your classroom to the playground using 'Fantastic Walking'.

Know that you must play safely without hurting anyone.

Know that we do not 'play fight' because we may hurt someone by accident.

Know that you must be **kind**, by including people in your games and sharing equipment.

Know that someone who is kind behaves in a gentle, caring, and helpful way towards other people.

Know that you should not scream when playing together at playtime.

Know that we must clean up all of the equipment at the end of playtime.

Know that, when called, you must line up in your lining up order quickly.

STEPS to politeness

Sir and Miss

Thank you

Excuse me

Please

Smile

Lunchtime

Know where you line up for lunchtime when you are called.

Know where you sit in the dinner hall during lunchtime.

Know that you should use a quiet voice in the dinner hall.

Know that you should always try to use a knife and fork correctly (this will be explicitly taught in EYFS and KS1)

Know that you should finish what you are eating before leaving your seat.

Know how to use good manners during lunchtime, particularly when receiving food from the school kitchen and talking to lunchtime supervisors.

Know that 'good manners' means saying 'please' when you ask for something and 'thank you' when you receive it.

School Uniform

Know that school uniform consists of –

Grey trousers, grey skirt, blue polo or shirt, school sweatshirt/cardigan, ties where applicable and black shoes. Dark shorts can be worn in the warmer weather as can pink check dresses.

Know that all shirts must be tucked in.

Know that long hair must be tied back .

Jewellery

Know that, on health and safety grounds, we do not allow pupils to wear jewellery in school except for earring studs in pierced ears, small objects of religious significance and a watch.

PE

Know that, for PE, pupils must wear black shorts or black tracksuit bottoms, burgundy T-shirt/hoody and trainers.

End of the day routine

Know that pupils must stay in a straight line while when waiting to be collected.

Know that they must stand behind the teacher at their exit.

Know that they must not go home until the teacher has checked that the correct adult is picking them up.

Know that these procedures are put in place to keep all children safe at home time.

Attendance and Punctuality

Know that you must try to attend school every day.

Know that you must try to arrive at school on time every day.

Know that attending school on time every day is important so that you don't miss important learning.

Behaviour outside school

Know that when you are wearing your school uniform you are representing the school community and must always behave responsibly and respectfully.

Know that you should be considerate of other people arriving and leaving school.

Know that being considerate means thinking about other people's needs, wishes and feelings.

Know that examples of being considerate on the way home include walking not running, giving people plenty of space, using a quiet voice (not shouting).

Summary

Know that the Utopia curriculum must be followed at all times.

Know that all pupils follow the Utopia curriculum to become better learners and to build positive habits which will help everyone to be successful throughout life.

NOTE: We do not have class charters, individual class rules or individual behaviour systems.