**St Thomas of Canterbury Catholic Primary School**

**Feedback & Overall Summary of Pupil Voice Interviews – Held 3rd February 2023**

Owen Myers - Parent Governor, Jenny Giles – Foundation Governor and Jerry Walsh (JW), Foundation Governor and Vice Chair of LGB, undertook interviews of two groups of pupils in the lower hall at St Thomas’. The purpose of the visit and interviews were to discuss and explore matters related to behaviours, safety and wellbeing.

**Format of interviews**

Two groups of children were convened representing the profile of the whole school from EY +Key Stage 1 to Key Stage 2. (Thus the groups included pupils with special educational needs (SEN) and some with behavioural issues).

The interview process was facilitated by Mrs Wendy Clark a member of the SLT. One of the School’s SLAs also attended. 32 pupils took part. The first group interviewed were EY + Key Stage 1 then followed by Key Stage 2 pupils.

The Governors led the discussions through a series of questions.

**Behaviour:**

Children were quick to reference golden rules and dining hall rules as examples of what good behaviour looked like. It was clear that stickers were an effective reward tool for younger classes. All children demonstrated an appreciation of the needs of different children, and that there were mechanisms in place to support them when behaviour was ‘not good’, - brain breaks, teacher intervention. Pupils also understood that if a fellow pupil is being ‘unkind’ firstly they would ask the other pupil to stop and then talk to the teacher if the behaviour continued. One of the pupils pointed out that Rainbow Room was a ‘really good place’ to go to when needing time away from class to cope with situations they may find stressful.

**Safety:**

All children demonstrated a strong grasp of material risks to safety such as what to do when there is a fire, the need to be supervised when playing near the pond, the role of the school gates and considerations required when in ‘the forest’. Children referenced that there was due to be a safer internet day next week (National e-safety week). One of the Key Stage 2 pupils is a member of the School Council and stated that they often discuss matters of safeguarding while other pupils confirmed online safety was always discussed at the weekly ‘computer’ lessons. When probed, children recognised the role of PSHE and Jigsaw in supporting awareness and there was a very positive attitude to the Jigsaw scheme.

**Wellbeing:**

Children in the older group could articulate the need for good mental health in ‘having a positive mindset’ and ‘feeling happy’. All children were excited about the prospect of ‘feeling good week’ next week and all the exciting things planned in school. Pupils were able to reference the ‘worry monster’ approach in sharing and discussing any concerns with an adult. Pupils referenced the use of red and green notes identifying when something was worrying them and whether they wished to discuss it with a teacher (green) and if no (red). When asked to list things about St Thomas’ if they had to write an advert for the school responses included, teachers are nice, making friends, learning new things, happy and healthy, rules to keep.

**General points**

The pupils were engaging and confident and gave considered responses. As noted above the pupils seem confident and comfortable in being able to approach teachers and staff on matters that concern them.It isof note that Pupils recognise the role resources such as the Jigsaw PSHE Scheme, Purple Mash Switched on Computing Scheme (if not necessarily by name), “Worry Monster” and School Council played across all three of the above areas. Pupils are very positive about St Thomas’.