

Equality Information and Objectives

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1. Aims

Our school aims to meet its obligations under the public sector equality duty by having due regard to the need to:

- Eliminate discrimination and other conduct that is prohibited by the Equality Act 2010
- Advance equality of opportunity between people who share a protected characteristic and people who do not share it
- Promote the Gospel values of love and forgiveness, alongside British values
- Foster good relations across all characteristics between people who share a protected characteristic and people who do not share it

2. Legislation and guidance

This document meets the requirements under the following legislation:

- The Equality Act 2010, which introduced the public sector equality duty and protects people from discrimination
- The Equality Act 2010 (Specific Duties) Regulations 2011, which require schools to publish information to demonstrate how they are complying with the public sector equality duty and to publish equality objectives

This document is also based on Department for Education (DfE) guidance: <u>The Equality Act</u> 2010 and schools.

3. Roles and responsibilities

The governing body will:

- Ensure that the equality information and objectives as set out in this statement are
 published and communicated throughout the school, including to staff, pupils and
 parents, and that they are reviewed and updated at least once every four years
- Delegate responsibility for monitoring the achievement of the objectives to the headteacher

The equality link governor will:

- Meet with the designated member of staff for equality every term and other relevant staff members, to discuss any issues and how these are being addressed
- Ensure they are familiar with all relevant legislation and the contents of this document
- Attend appropriate equality and diversity training
- Report back to the full governing board regarding any issues

The headteacher will:

- Promote knowledge and understanding of the equality objectives amongst staff and pupils
- Monitor success in achieving the objectives and report back to governors

The designated member of staff for equality will:

- Support the headteacher in promoting knowledge and understanding of the equality objectives amongst staff and pupils
- Meet with the equality link governor every term to discuss reports and findings
- Support the headteacher in identifying any staff training needs, and deliver training as necessary

All school staff are expected to have regard to this document and to work to achieve the objectives as set out in section 8.

4. Eliminating discrimination

The school is aware of its obligations under the Equality Act 2010 and complies with non-discrimination provisions.

Where relevant, our policies include reference to the importance of avoiding discrimination and other prohibited conduct.

Staff and governors are regularly reminded of their responsibilities under the Equality Act in the school Code of Conduct.

New staff receive training on the Equality Act as part of their induction.

The school has a designated member of staff for monitoring equality issues, and an equality link governor. They regularly liaise regarding any issues and make senior leaders and governors aware of these as appropriate.

5. Advancing equality of opportunity

As set out in the DfE guidance on the Equality Act, the school aims to advance equality of opportunity by:

- Removing or minimising disadvantages suffered by people which are connected to a
 particular characteristic they have (e.g. pupils with disabilities, or gay pupils who are
 being subjected to homophobic bullying)
- Taking steps to meet the particular needs of people who have a particular characteristic
- Encouraging people who have a particular characteristic to participate fully in any activities (e.g. encouraging all pupils to be involved in the full range of school activities)

In fulfilling this aspect of the duty, the school will:

- Publish attainment data each academic year showing how pupils with different characteristics are performing
- Analyse the above data to determine strengths and areas for improvement, implement actions in response and publish this information
- Make evidence available identifying improvements for specific groups (e.g. declines in incidents of homophobic or transphobic bullying)

6. Fostering good relations

The school aims to foster good relations between those who share a protected characteristic and those who do not share it by:

- Promoting the Gospel values of love and forgiveness through mutual trust, care and respect
- Promoting all British values of democracy, rule of law, individual liberty, mutual respect and tolerance of those with different faiths and beliefs and those without faith, through different aspects of our curriculum. This includes teaching in RE, citizenship and personal, social, health and economic (PSHE) education, but also activities in other curriculum areas.
- Holding assemblies dealing with relevant issues. Pupils will be encouraged to take a lead in such assemblies and we will also invite external speakers to contribute
- Working with our local community. This includes inviting leaders of local faith groups to speak at assemblies, and organising school trips and activities based around the local community
- Encouraging and implementing initiatives to deal with tensions between different groups of pupils within the school. For example, our school council has representatives from different year groups and is formed of pupils from a range of backgrounds. All pupils are encouraged to participate in the school's activities, such as sports clubs. We also work with parents to promote knowledge and understanding of different cultures
- We have developed links with people and groups who have specialist knowledge about particular characteristics, which helps inform and develop our approach

7. Equality considerations in decision-making

The school ensures it has due regard to equality considerations whenever significant decisions are made.

The school always considers the impact of significant decisions on particular groups.

8. Equality objectives

Objective 1

To ensure that our employment practices are fair and promote equality

Action:

Follow Equality Act 2010 throughout the recruitment process

Objective 2

To actively value the wide variety of lifestyles and cultures locally and nationally through the teaching of Gospel values, PHSE and SMSC

Action:

- Curriculum plans to include teaching and learning of the wide variety of lifestyles and cultures
- Strategic calendar to include themed assemblies
- Subject Leaders, through monitoring, ensure their subject includes the above

Objective 3

To prepare children and young people for living in a diverse society with increasing global connections and controversial issues

- Curriculum plans to include teaching and learning of global issues
- House days and strategic calendar to address identified issues
- Celebration assemblies to be used to highlight and discuss current issues and events

Objective 4

To ensure that the principles of this policy are reflected in all our policies, practices, procedures and services and are part of everything we do

Actions

- All new policies to reference and include this policy, where applicable
- Governors to check compliance of statutory policies

9. Monitoring arrangements

The designated person for equality will update the equality information we publish, described in sections 4-7 above, at least every year.

This document will be reviewed by curriculum subcommittee at least every 4 years.

This document will be approved by governing board.

10. Links with other policies

This document links to the following policies:

- The Equality Act 2010
- Compliance with the Public Sector Equality Duty