

St Edward's CE Primary School

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
- 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: The Equality Act 2010 and schools.

3. Roles and responsibilities

The governing board 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 on a daily basis to the headteacher

The equality link governor is April Sly. They will:

- Meet with the designated member of staff for equality regularly and other relevant staff members, to discuss any issues and how these are being addressed
- Ensure they're 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 regularly to raise and discuss any issues
- 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, for example during meetings. Where this has been discussed during a meeting it is recorded in the meeting minutes.

New staff receive training on the Equality Act as part of their induction and safeguarding training, and all staff receive refresher training every year.

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)
- Taking steps to meet the particular needs of people who have a particular characteristic (e.g. providing a place for pupils to go to if they are withdrawing from Collective Worship)
- 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:

- Analyse performance data to determine strengths and areas for improvement, implement actions in response and monitor outcomes.
- Regularly monitor issues that might occur within any protected groups
- Analyse information about any issues associated with particular protected characteristics, identifying any issues which could affect pupils

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 equality, friendship and understanding of a range of religions and cultures 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. For example, as part of teaching and learning in English/reading, pupils will be introduced to literature from a range of cultures
- 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 Collective Worship, and organising school trips and activities based around the local community
- 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. For example, when a school trip or activity is being planned, the school considers whether the trip:

- Is accessible to pupils with disabilities
- Has equivalent facilities for all pupils

8. Equality objectives

Objective 1: To support access to learning for different groups of students – see accessibility plan

We will seek to achieve this through:

Implementing a risk assessment system that is fair and sensitive to the situations of individual students

Using accurate AfL to inform the support, teaching and learning resources made available to meet students' requirements for access to learning.

Objective 2: To protect the interests of all members of the school community irrespective of their particular characteristics.

We will seek to achieve this through:

Robust and embedded safeguarding policies and procedures that are reviewed annually.

The requirement for all staff and governors to undertake training in safeguarding (including the Prevent Duty) and in equality and diversity.

Taking action to deal effectively with all forms of bullying (including cyber bullying) and harassment so that all in the school community are treated with dignity and respect.

Objective 3: To sustain and develop an inclusive learning and working environment that promotes equality and diversity

We will seek to achieve this through:

Activities that promote the awareness and celebration of equality and diversity among students, staff and parents/carers.

9. Monitoring arrangements

The governing body will update the equality information we publish, [described in sections 4-7 above], at least every year.

This document will be reviewed by the governing body at least every 4 years – next review due 2028