

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](http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2010/15/contents), which introduced the public sector equality duty and protects people from discrimination
* [The Equality Act 2010 (Specific Duties) Regulations 2011](http://www.legislation.gov.uk/uksi/2011/2260/contents/made), 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.](https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/315587/Equality_Act_Advice_Final.pdf)

This document also complies with our funding agreement and articles of association.

# 3. Roles and responsibilities

The School Monitoring Council 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 Head of School.

The Head of School will:

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

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 where appropriate, 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 all staff receive refresher training every school year.

# 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. enabling Muslim pupils to pray at prescribed times)
* 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 the data for pupils with particular characteristics to determine strengths and areas for improvement and implement actions in response.
* Make evidence available identifying improvements for specific groups (e.g. declines in incidents of bullying related to characteristics)

# 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 tolerance, 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 where appropriate.
* Working with our local community. This includes inviting leaders of local faith groups to speak at assemblies (where possible), 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. 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 boys and girls

The school keeps a written record to show we have actively considered our equality duties and asked ourselves relevant questions. This is recorded at the same time as the risk assessment when planning school trips and activities. The record is completed by the member of staff organising the activity and is stored with the completed risk assessment.

# 8. School Equality objectives

Narrowing the gap in performance of disabled pupils

Increasing understanding between religious groups

Raising attainment in English for boys

Anticipating the needs of incoming pupils from a new group, such as traveller children

Narrowing gaps in attainment between groups of pupils, for example, girls and boys

Improving the attendance of pupils from particular groups

Increasing the participation of particular groups in school activities

Reducing prejudice-related bullying and the use of derogatory language

Improving the participation and engagement of different groups of parents and communities

**Trust Equality objectives**

***Objective 1:*** *Undertake an analysis of recruitment data and trends with regard to race, gender and disability by July, and report on this to the Resources committee of the Board of Directors centrally.*

***Objective 2:*** *Train all members of staff and governors involved in recruitment and selection on equal opportunities and non-discrimination by the beginning of the next academic year. Training evaluation data will show that 100% of those attending have a good understanding of the legal requirements.*

# 9. Monitoring arrangements

The Head of School will update the equality information we publish, at least every year.

This document will be reviewed by the Resources Committee at least every 3 years.

# 10. Links with other policies

This document links to the following policies:

* Accessibility plan
* Risk assessments
* Special Educational Needs

April 2018