

Harwood Meadows Primary School



EQAULITY INFORMATION AND OBJECTIVES

Version and Date		Action/Notes
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Contents

1. Aims.....	4
2. Legislation and guidance.....	4
3. Roles and responsibilities.....	4
4. Eliminating discrimination	5
5. Advancing equality of opportunity	5
6. Fostering good relations	6
7. Equality considerations in decision-making.....	6
8. Equality objectives	6
9. Monitoring arrangements.....	7
10. Links with other policies	7

1. Aims

Our school aims to meet its obligations under the Public Sector Equality Duty (PSED) by having due regard to the need to:

- Eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment, victimisation and any other conduct 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
- We will not discriminate against, harass or victimise any pupil, prospective pupil, or other member of the school community because of their:
 - Sex
 - Age
 - Race
 - Disability
 - Religion or belief
 - Sexual orientation
 - Gender reassignment
 - Pregnancy or maternity

We aim to promote pupils' spiritual, moral, social and cultural development, with special emphasis on promoting equality and diversity, and eradicating prejudicial incidents for pupils and staff. Our school is committed to not only eliminating discrimination, but also increasing understanding and appreciation for diversity.

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.

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

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
- Ensure that the published equality information is updated at least every year, and that the objectives are reviewed and updated at least every 4 years
- Delegate responsibility for monitoring the achievement of the objectives on a daily basis to the headteacher

The headteacher will:

- Promote knowledge and understanding of the equality objectives among 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 – for example, during meetings.

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

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 that 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 (e.g. enabling Muslim pupils / staff 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 societies)

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

- Analyse 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)

- Publish further data about any issues associated with particular protected characteristics, identifying any issues which could affect our own 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 tolerance, friendship and understanding of a range of religions and cultures through different aspects of our curriculum. This includes teaching in Relationships and Health Education (Jigsaw), RE, 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 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 and choir. We also work with parents to promote knowledge and understanding of different cultures
- We develop 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:

- Cuts across any religious holidays
- Is accessible to pupils with disabilities
- Has equivalent facilities for boys and girls

The school keeps a Disability Equality Guidance Policy to show we have actively considered our equality duties and asked ourselves relevant questions.

8. Equality objectives

Objective 1

To avoid potential prejudice and increase understanding and practice of equality through direct teaching in all areas of the curriculum and behaviour modelling.

Objective 2

Have in place a reasonable adjustment agreement for all children and staff with disabilities, to meet their needs better and make sure that any disadvantages they experience are addressed.

Objective 3

Ensure that the best candidates are employed in school regardless of race, ethnicity, disability or background.

Objective 4

To provide an environment which celebrates and respects diversity.

Objective 5

For spiritual, moral, social and cultural development to be embedded through all curriculum areas and all aspects of life at our school.

9. Monitoring arrangements

The governing board will update the equality information we publish at least every year.

This document will be reviewed by the governing board at least every 4 years.

This document will be approved by the governing board and headteacher

10. Links with other policies

This document links to the following policies:

- Accessibility plan
- Risk assessment
- Disability Equality Guidance Policy

This policy was adopted for full implementation October 2022.

This Policy will be reviewed by the Governing Body on a 4-yearly cycle and must be signed by the Chair of Governors and Headteacher.

Policy Reviewed:	October 2024
Next Review:	October 2026
Signature of Chair of Governors: 	Signature of Headteacher: 