

Policy: Equality and Inclusion Statement - 2018/19



INTRODUCTION

At Woodhall Primary School we are committed to promoting ambition and providing opportunities for everyone within a culture that is happy, supportive and safe. All talents are nurtured, all needs are met and all can flourish.

We achieve this by:

- providing a stimulating and enriching environment that inspires a love of learning
- caring about ourselves, our school and our community
- respecting, supporting and valuing each other
- persevering to achieve more than others think possible
- enjoying and celebrating our successes, together

Under the Equality Act 2010 (Section 149), schools are required to have regard to:

1. Eliminating unlawful discrimination, harassment and victimisation
2. Advancing equality of opportunity
3. Fostering good relations between those who share a protected characteristic (e.g. disability, race, religion, belief, gender assignment, sexual orientation, pregnancy or maternity) and those who do not.

For us this means:

- Decision makers must be aware of the duty to have due regard when making a decision or taking an action, and must assess whether it may have implications for people with particular protected characteristics
- Schools should consider equality implications before and at the time that they develop policy and take decisions, not as an afterthought, and they need to keep them under review on a continuing basis
- The Public Service Equality Duty (PSED) has to be integrated into the carrying out of the school's functions, and the analysis necessary to comply with the duty has to be carried out seriously, rigorously and with an open mind

The following documents should be read in conjunction with this Statement:

- SEND Information Report
- Safeguarding Policy
- Anti-Bullying Policy
- Admissions Policy
- Behaviour Policy
- Supporting Pupils with Medical Conditions Policy
- Intimate Care Policy
- Sex and Relationships Education Policy

GUIDING PRINCIPLES

1. Ensuring equality of opportunity and participation

- All staff are aware of the school's Equality and Inclusion Statement;
- Children's achievement is monitored by race, gender and disability. Any trends or patterns in the data that may require additional action in order to narrow gaps in attainment and progress;
- The abilities of all children regardless of race, gender or disability are recognised and encouraged. Those children who display particular talents and abilities are encouraged to develop these through a structured programme of activities/events;
- We have an inclusive approach to ensuring all children are given the opportunity to make a positive contribution to the life of the school e.g. through involvement in the School Council by election or other committees, participating in fundraising events, school productions;
- All children, regardless of need, take part in all aspects of the curriculum, including educational visits and journeys; lunchtime activities; PE and dance and assemblies;
- Our extended school activities e.g. after-school clubs, take account of children's needs and are accessible to all and reflect the diversity of the school population in terms of race, gender, disability and socio-economic status;
- Staff, children, parents and carers will continue to be involved in the future development of the Equality and Inclusion Statement through input and feedback from surveys, staff meetings, school council meetings, parents evenings etc.

The school will provide:

- Additional support for children who are under-achieving, in order to make progress in their learning and their personal well-being e.g. ensuring that children with visual impairment have accessible texts; that children with hearing impairment have an enhanced acoustic classroom environment;
- Additional support for parents of under-achieving children (e.g. reporting progress; discussing needs);
- Additional support for disabled parents/carers and staff to help them play a full part in the life of the school (e.g. providing a sign interpreter for a deaf parent; ensuring that meetings are held in the most accessible parts of the school to support wheelchair users).

2. Promoting positive attitudes and meeting needs

The school will:

- Promote positive images which reflect the diversity of the school and community in terms of race, gender and disability, for example in assemblies, books, publications and learning materials and in classroom/corridor displays;
- Provide reasonable means for children, their friends and families to interact with people from different backgrounds and build positive relationships, including links with different schools and communities;

- Provide extended services, with opportunities for children, families and the wider community to take part in activities and receive services which build positive interaction and achievement for all groups;
- Supporting disabled children in the period of transition between primary and secondary school to ease the stress of moving and increase familiarity with new surroundings;
- Help children to understand others and value diversity;
- Promoting shared values and an awareness of human rights;
- Developing skills of participation and responsible action – for example through PSHE.

3. Eliminating discrimination and harassment

The school will:

- Adhere to clear procedures on anti-bullying which include equality perspectives;
- Support staff to challenge and address any bullying and harassment that is based on a person's race, gender, sexuality or ethnicity;
- Keep a record and report how these incidents are dealt with to the governing body on a termly basis;
- Review its approach to race, gender and disability bullying and harassment whenever it reviews its policy on behaviour.

MONITORING IMPACT

- The school will collect and analyse evidence and data on children's achievement, attendance and participation by race, gender and disability, and use this to inform strategies to raise achievement;
- The governing body will report annually to parents on the effectiveness and success of its Equality and Inclusion Statement.

EDUCATION IMPROVEMENT PRIORITIES

Ensuring equality and inclusion are central to the School's ethos and vision. Therefore, to meet the needs of all children key development priorities are an integral part of the School's Education Improvement Plan. For 2016/17 the key priorities include:

1. Close the gap in progress and attainment in Reading, Writing, GPS and Mathematics between 'disadvantaged' and 'other' children.
2. Promote improvement in reading to ensure all pupils make expected or greater than expected progress
3. Implement a range of approaches to promote children's emotional wellbeing.

MONITORING AND REVIEW

This policy will be reviewed annually by the headteacher and monitored by the governing body.