

### **Equality Duty Information & Objectives**

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On 5 April 2011 the Public Sector Equality Duty (The Equality Duty) came into force in England, Scotland and Wales. This duty replaces the existing race, disability and gender equality duties.

### The three aims of the General Equality Duty are:

- Eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment and victimisation and other conduct prohibited by the Act by removing or minimising disadvantages suffered by people due to their protected characteristics.
- 2. Advance equality of opportunity between people who share a protected characteristic and those who do not by taking steps to meet the needs of people from protected groups where these are different from the needs of other people.
- 3. Foster good relations between people who share a protected characteristic and those who do not by encouraging people from protected groups to participate in public life, or in other activities where their participation is disproportionately low.

The nine protected characteristics/groups are:

- Age
- Disability
- Sex
- Gender reassignment
- Race
- Pregnancy and maternity
- Religion or belief

- Sexual orientation
- Marriage or Civil Partnership

#### Our vision for equality

In fulfilling our legal duties listed above, we have the following vision embedded across our curriculum and policies.

- Every pupil should have opportunities to achieve exceptionally well in **all** areas of the curriculum to discover their loves, talents and true potential with any potential barriers removed.
- Every pupil should learn about and adopt our school values: integrity, collaboration, community, curiosity, courage and perseverance with the desire for this to continue into adulthood to ensure they grow into effective, model citizens who create further 'good' in the world and challenge where other's behaviour and attitudes fall short of these.
- Every pupil should feel a sense of belonging within our community and a sense of pride about themselves as an individual.

In compiling this equality information we have:

- Considered our policy and practice for equality across all of school, policy and practice.
- Looked at how our school meets the needs of protected characteristics and identified any areas for improvement.
- Ensured that current practice is always reviewed to forever enhance equality of opportunity.

## **School Evaluation**

Our school is determined to be inclusive of all pupils and staff and create a climate where it is safe to ask questions or say if something could be improved upon.

The school work force, prior to the arrival of the new Headteacher in September 2020, was less diverse and lacked a range of role models. This has since changed and provides a much more diverse workforce which is additionally supported by Rhino Sports Academy where sports coaches (male and female) support pupils in class as well as providing specialist PE sessions and before and after school clubs. A particular concern was the lack of male role models in school – there are now more male staff and sports coaches.

The pupil population is becoming more diverse and pupils travel up to ten miles to come to our school. We increasingly benefit from pupils of a range of backgrounds. The town's University recently attended for 'A day in the Life of a UK school.' Delegates commented that they were

unable to identify any pupils with Send in the classrooms and the observations and feedback were around how highly inclusive for all the school is. We are proud of this. This visit also allows for our children to meet educational professionals from many parts of the world including as far away as Africa.

All vulnerable and Send pupils are considered in a whole school provision map with a range of social, emotional and academic provisions in place to enable them to reach their potential and thrive. A named Governor with responsibility for Send and Pupil Premium children is in post: her background was in opening free school status special schools in London and beyond. Learning walks carried out by her and the Headteacher demonstrate that every pupil's needs were seen to be met and all were noted to be thriving in progressive but challenging teaching sessions. Children with Send, including EHCPs, receive regular reviews to ensure that they are able to access school without barriers.

Our school uses CPOMs to record and chronologise any concerns and this allows us to classify any incidents. Currently, since September 2020, the outcomes are pleasing. Behaviour and attitudes of pupils are strong, they know what we expect, how we celebrate successes and that they can tell an adult if they have worries. Teachers and leaders ensure that they are very present around school and children know that adults will be around during the day should they wish to talk to someone or raise worries. Pupils understand that diversity is celebrated and have an excellent view of family values to all within our school.

Policies and training promote high quality CPD to ensure that staff are well educated and well informed should they need to challenge if something were not appropriate. This includes low level concerns that do not reach the Whistle Blowing threshold. Safeguarding policies includes peer on peer abuse and specific reference to acceptable behaviours. There is a staff code of conduct. The behaviour and anti-bulling policies demonstrate zero tolerance can be implemented as required.

We are an approachable school and will engage with any individual, regardless of the protected characteristics. We have a curriculum that we ensure is accessible to all and teaches our pupils about respect to all protected characteristics (at times implicit routed in messages of respect for similarities and differences). The Jigsaw scheme has been adapted and mapped for our school context and new school values were embedded following consultation with the community.

The school is small and as such, every individual pupil is well known and provision is tailored to suit them – we are proud of this provision and will always strive to ensure that every single child 'is the best that they can be.'

# **Equality Duty Information**

Protected Characteristics	How we meet the needs and ensure equality of opportunity.					
	What evidence do we hold that we eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment & victimisation?	How do we advance equality of opportunity between people who share a protected characteristic and those who do not?	How do we foster good relations between people who share a protected characteristic and those who do not?			
Age	Role models of staff, governors and volunteers of diverse age range. Recruitment values a range of experience – policy adopted from LA'S HR.	Open recruitment procedure Recruitment training for SLT Clear messages upon interest that we do not discriminate and promote equality of opportunity. Ensure that different year groups can play well and respect each other so that age is not a barrier for opportunity	Community links to the school Positive role models – increase in these. Values for pupils and staff required to be followed. Staff code of conduct Shared playtimes, assemblies and celebrations between age groups			
Disability	Vulnerable pupil including Send and pp provision mapping. External agency engagement to ensure correct practice. EHCP regularly monitored and updated to ensure high outcomes. Disabled parking space Disabled toilet	Senco provision and policy implementation Staff CPD Use of external agency support when required. Ensuring all children have opportunity across the curriculum with one-page profiles of all pupils who need something' different to' to ensure full engagement for all in shared goals. Accessibility plan	Engagement in the same activities with individual adjustments Values and celebration of similarities and differences – adapted Jigsaw PSHE scheme.			

		Resources are adapted to ensure all can engage with curriculum learning when required.  Hearing and eyesight impairment demonstrated as met within class provision.	
Sex	Gender tracking on attainment and progress Observations of lessons and work scrutinise check for genders achieving in line with each other. Sports – equal access to lessons and competitions. Coaches – both male and female in post. Range of clubs on offer	Sports and PE accessible for both including mixed sex pe lessons and competitions where appropriate.  Teaching sequence for Literacy adopted where research demonstrated accessible learning for boys.  Performance management observations to ensure sex does not prevent success in any subject falling under 'groups'.  Staff CPD  Effective policies	Mixed sport Range of curriculum interests provided. Effective PSHEC scheme Celebration of anyone's successes Playtimes that enable the sexes to choose activities and mix.

	Gender	Specific examples have not currently	Unable to evidence specific	Unable to evidence specific
	reassignment	been obtained as not currently present in	circumstances currently.	circumstances currently.
		school.	Effective PSHEC curriculum	Effective PSHEC curriculum supported
		Effective PSHEC curriculum supported	supported by values education.	by values education.
		by values education.	Evidence that we meet individual	Evidence that we meet individual needs in
		Evidence that we meet individual needs in	needs in wider practice.	wider practice.
		wider practice.		Additional support for the child and
				family or staff member could be sought if
				required and for the school policy and
Ĺ				procedures.

Race	Ensure that all races compare favourably by checking attainment and progress data Literacy, History and curriculum planning to show choices are made to celebrate and promote all races.  CPOMs recording system and report racists incidents to Governors (none since Sept 2020)  PSHEC and values in place.  Prevent Duty training to raise awareness of broader issues.  A range of cultures celebrated through a range of resources.  Role models from a range of cultures have been increased.  Equality of opportunity in recruitment.	Pupil progress and attainment tracking including meetings with teachers to ensure progress of all pupils whatever their race. Curriculum choices as specified previously. Equality of opportunity across the curriculum and sports competition. Visitors form a range of cultures identified as an area to increase as Covid passes. Equal opportunity employer	Resources from a range of cultures Assembly themes PSHEC and values curriculum Range of positive role models Curriculum content as specified. All pupils play together and celebrate together.
Pregnancy & Maternity	Ensure staff member can attend all appointments even if unforeseen. Reduce emotional worry about impact on work with reassurance and promotion of health – verbal and email as required Offer employee assist HR support as required Risk assessments including for Covid Consider part time and flexible working requests fairly Meet legal obligations KIT days Staff discussion about level of contact they want to maintain during maternity	LA maternity and HR policies in place Culture of respect for different staff needs at different times Understanding that new parents may not want to do late nights/ residentials etc Understand they may need advance notice where times and days are different to routine to allow attendance at same events	Staff celebration and gifts for new arrivals Visit opportunities – informal and social – open door policy Invitations and amount of contact for events without expectation to attend Shared celebration of all staff achievements

Religion and belief	RE locally agreed syllabus followed Values and PSHEC curriculum Prevent Duty CPD training Local relationship with church – identified need to find local venues for a wider range of religious belief Do not discriminate during recruitment	RE and wider curriculum promotes understanding and celebration of religions in culture of respect Prevent Duty CPD to avoid staff misconceptions	Visitors from a range of religions will return once comfortable with Covid situation Assemblies – celebrate religious events in the calendar PSHEC and values education Respect and open for any questions that may arise
Sexual Orientation	Anti-bullying and behaviour policy in place should something against this characteristic arise Peer on peer abuse detailed in safeguarding policy and on staff CPD Reporting in place to Governors should it be required CPOMs recording system LA/ HR recruitment non-discriminatory PSHEC schemes of work in place	Curriculum adopted that meets different age range needs and staff team able to answer any pupil questions.  Recruitment demonstrates increasing diversity  Knowledge of parents in a same sex relationship and school events designed to welcome both  Positive role models  Awareness of not promoting stereo typical families in school	Equal opportunity to events Support for each and every parent Curriculum coverage as noted Staff code of conduct including acceptable language for inclusivity
Marriage or civil partnership	PSHEC and values education Not promoting one structure in teachings and classroom language Staff code of conduct in place Choice of contact details available for our records Support to all staff for close people should anything be required outside of school	PSHEC curriculum Staff code of conduct No promotion in class of one family structure	All families and members welcome into school and provided support Parental responsibility noted to allow equality of opportunity Curriculum that doesn't promote one structure Staff can choose to keep private or share

# Actions as a result of our audit and review

Objectives	Characteristic	Actions	Who/ When	Review
To encourage a diverse	All	To invite an increasing a range of	RE and PSHE lead termly	Consistently increasing
range of visitors to school		visitors from different religions and	review. First review upon	since pandemic
as part of the curriculum.		visiting a range of places of worship.	RE curriculum re-	restrictions and impact for
			assessment May 22	visitors reduced. Range of
				groups, next need to invite
				members from a greater
				range of Religious
				backgrounds into school.
		To ensure equality of opportunity for	HT – yearly calendar	Calendars running – new
		visiting families to school events.	linked to key events and	traditions in place and
			the PTA in place fully for	others continuously
			Sept 22 post Covid	considered.
			restrictions.	
		To ensure visitors reflect a range of	PSHE lead to lead subject	To be assigned following
		races that is embedded into the	leaders to assign a range	the devising of the
		curriculum map.	of visiting professionals	innovated curriculum.
			embracing race linked to	Date moved so hat visitor
			their curriculum area.	match new content,
			Map September 2024.	
To ensure that all pupils	All	To ensure that pupil progress meetings	Assessment lead (HT in	Detailed Send profiles are
succeed, and protected		address all pupil progress and include a	their absence) at PP	in place to ensure
characteristics are not		check for equality of opportunity so that	review meetings termly	vulnerable pupils have
discriminated against.		boys/ girls/ Gender/ disability etc are all	starting May 22.	their needs well met.
		successful.		Trend by gender are still
				being addressed. Eg –
		**further action points could then be		muscle strength of boys in
		added to this plan.		lower part of school
				appears weaker than prior

				to pandemic impacting handwriting and requiring support and development.
To ensure that vulnerable pupils have their individual needs met so that they make secure levels of progress.	All	Provision map to be in place for all vulnerable pupils with termly bespoke tracking of pupils with both Send and PP.  To ensure that one page profiles and	Sept 22	Pupil profiles evolved significantly from this point with most vulnerable pupils receiving highly in depth profiles. Targets reviewed
		provision for these pupils is effective.  To ensure high levels of transition for these pupils to ensure that at each stage of their education, they are successful.	July 22 onwards July or pupil transition into/ to another school.	and progress shared termly with parents. We have been told that these are of a high quality and beyond 'the norm' so the impact on pupils is significant.
To ensure that a diverse range of role models remains in place.	All	Ensure effective continued recruitment and ongoing work with Rhino Sport Academy to bring diversity of role models.  To compensate for any gaps with the above point of career visitors to school.	Ongoing HT	Growing greatly and the rolling programme of us training TAs means that even more adults visit the setting with different backgrounds and passions.
To ensure that curriculum resources are appropriate and diverse.	All	Subject leaders to review resources and role models identified within the curriculum.	Initial review June 22 and then next curriculum year for Sept 22 and ongoing.	Diversity in place and subject leaders reviewed. Taken a stage further than this and now have a strand being built across all curriculum areas with the concept of diversity explicitly considered.

To ensure pupil and	All	Pupil curriculum committee	HT/ PSHE lead May 22,	Curriculum committee
community have a voice		established.	then at least annually	had to run for longer due
and can feedback their			recruit and retain	to pandemic interruptions.
views in relation to			structure.	New elections beginning.
equality of opportunity.				Subject leaders made use
				of the committee
		Pupil survey	HT/ PSHE lead May 22,	especially effective in
			then at least annually.	Maths,
		Parent survey	HT April 22, then at least	New assembly content
			annually.	due with innovated
				curriculum. Sept 24.
		Assemblies to ensure ethos and that	HT/ PSHE lead return to	
		children know who they can talk to	whole school in person	
		about a range of issues.	assemblies – establish a	
			summer timetable and	
			yearly timetable.	