



# Equality Objectives

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<b>Author:</b>	Karen Gaster – Head Teacher
<b>Ratified by:</b>	Alfred Foglio – Chair of the Board of Directors

**The purpose of the plan is 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

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## **EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY STATEMENT**

*Under the Equality Act 2010 we have a duty not to discriminate against people on the basis of their age, disability, gender, gender identity, pregnancy or maternity, race, religion or belief and sexual orientation.*

*This policy has been equality impact assessed and we believe that it is in line with the Equality Act 2010 as it is fair, it does not prioritise or disadvantage any employee or applicant and it helps to promote equality at this school.*

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## **Equality Objectives**

### **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 Board of Directors 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 to the Head Teacher.

The Board member with responsibility for Equality is Jen Clifford.

They will:

- Meet with the designated member of staff for equality every term 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 board of directors 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 directors

The designated member of staff for equality, will:

- Support the Head Teacher in promoting knowledge and understanding of the equality objectives amongst staff and pupils
- Meet with the Equality link board member every term to raise and discuss any issues
- Support the Head Teacher 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 directors 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 all staff receive refresher training at scheduled times each year.

The school has a designated member of staff for monitoring equality issues, and an equality link director. They regularly liaise regarding any issues and make senior leaders and directors 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, or LGBT+ pupils who are being subjected to homophobic or transphobic bullying)

- 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 societies)

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

- Publish attainment data each academic year showing how pupils with different characteristics are performing
- Analyse the above 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 acceptance, friendship and understanding of a range of religions and cultures through different aspects of our curriculum. This includes teaching in RE, RSHE, 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 assemblies, and organising school trips and activities based around the local community
- Encouraging and implementing initiatives to deal with tensions between different pupils within the school. All pupils are encouraged to participate in the school's activities, such as during Enrichment. We also work with parents to promote knowledge and understanding of different cultures

## **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 written record (known as an Equality Impact Assessment) 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 electronically with the completed risk assessment.

## **8. Equality objectives**

**Objective 1:** To monitor and analyse pupil achievement by race, gender and special educational need or disability and act on any trends or patterns in the data that require additional support for pupils.

Data is analysed by the Head of Education and SENDCo. Any areas causing concern are then addressed and steps put into place with any groups or individuals requiring intervention.

**Objective 2:** To raise levels of attainment in core subjects for disadvantaged and vulnerable learners (FSM and Pupil Premium matrix) to that where possible they achieve national average levels in Reading, Writing and Maths.

Data is analysed by the Head of Education and SENDCo.

**Objective 3:** To tackle prejudice and promote understanding in relation to people with disabilities.

Awareness will be promoted by the whole school via assemblies, PHSE/RSE lessons/golden thread implementation, recruitment process and whole school ethos through stakeholder feedback, and reviewed by the Head of Education and SENDCo and shared with the Head Teacher.

## **9. Monitoring arrangements**

The full board of Directors will update the equality information published, at least every year.

This document will be reviewed by the full board of Directors annually.

This document will be approved by the full board of Directors.

## **10. Links with other policies**

This document links to the following policies:

Yarrow Heights School – Confidential  
**Equality Objectives**

- Accessibility Plan
- SEND Policy
- Child Protection and Safeguarding Policy