



Grove School

## **Equality Objectives**

Mission statement:

**“Enjoy, learn, achieve”**

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## Grove School

**The Equality Act 2010 brings together, and expands upon, previous legislation on various kinds of discrimination, so that there are no longer separate Acts and Regulations. The Act defines the grounds on which it is unlawful to discriminate. This policy remains in place until the Local Authority produce an updated version in line with the new law.**

- In accordance with our school values and ethos we will respect the equal human rights of all our pupils and educate them about equalities issues;
- We will also respect the equal rights of our staff and other members of the school community;
- In order to do this, we will comply with relevant legislation and implement school plans in relation to race equality, disability equality and gender equality.

### **A. Aims of the policy**

We aim to develop the children's awareness of the diversity of the society in which we live.

We aim to make the whole of their school experience positive and equip children with the skills to develop positive attitudes towards a racially and culturally diverse society. We aim to ensure that all pupils have an understanding of British values and that every citizen has a role to play within a democracy

The school complies with the Public Sector Equality Duty. This duty can be found at the end of this policy. Our school policy outlines how, as a school, we comply with this duty.

The Grove Expectations underpin our philosophy for equal opportunities.

Grove Expectations:

- We treat others as we would like to be treated

- We are kind and don't hurt others or their feelings
- We respect all property
- We always try to do our best
- We are honest and tell the truth
- We are good listeners and thoughtful speakers

At Grove we strive for excellence in our partnership with parents and other agencies to ensure equality for all children.

At Grove school we strive to positively promote British Values through our pastoral work and curriculum work with pupils.

## **B. DEFINITIONS**

**Disability** is defined by the Disability Discrimination Act 1995 (DDA):

“A person has a disability if he or she has a physical or mental impairment that has a substantial and long-term adverse effect on his or her ability to carry out normal day to day activities.”

This covers the following categories:

- Mobility
- Physical coordination
- Manual dexterity
- Continence
- Ability to lift, carry or otherwise move everyday objects
- Speech, hearing, eyesight
- Memory or ability to learn, concentrate or understand
- Perception of risk or physical danger

The definition was amended under the 2005 Disability Amendment Act to

- Include all those with cancer or surviving cancer
- Include those with HIV or Multiple Sclerosis from the point of diagnosis
- Remove the requirement for mental impairment to be clinically well recognised

There will be an overlap between those pupils with SEN and those with disabilities.

The definition of **institutional racism** is ‘the collective failure of an organisation to provide an appropriate and professional service to people because of their culture, colour or ethnic origin.’ It can be seen in processes, attitudes and behaviour that

amount to discrimination, through unwitting prejudice, ignorance, or thoughtless and racist stereotyping, all of which disadvantage minority groups.

A **racist incident** is an action which is motivated by the desire to discriminate on the basis of a person's ethnicity. Any incident of racial harassment is unacceptable in our school. An incident could take the form of physical assault, verbal abuse, damage to personal property or lack of cooperation in a lesson, on account of another pupil's ethnicity.

Minority ethnic groups include Gypsy travellers, refugees, and asylum seekers and in certain contexts, white Europeans.

### **C. Equal opportunities objectives**

Discrimination on the basis of our culture, religion, sex, religion, ability or sexuality is not tolerated at Grove School.

Every person at Grove contributes towards a happy and caring environment by showing respect for and appreciation of each other as individuals.

We will educate and develop all children whatever their religious, cultural, ethnic, sexual or social background.

We ensure that all pupils have equal and full access to the wide range of educational opportunities provided, this includes pupils with special educational needs and disabilities.

### **D. Race Equality Objectives**

We are committed to combating racial discrimination and racial harassment by challenging stereotyping and prejudice whenever it occurs.

We endeavour to make school a welcoming place for all ethnic and national groups represented in the community. Our Thinking Curriculum supports this objective.

We ensure that all recruitment, employment promotion and training systems are fair to all, and provide opportunities for everyone to achieve.

We constantly strive to remove any forms of indirect discrimination that may form barriers to learning, for example by ensuring that school resources reflect a diverse society and do not portray negative images.

#### **E. Promoting Race Equality and Equality Objectives**

Through the curricular programme we reflect positive attitudes and values towards all social, racial and ethnic groups. In Religious Education the children learn about celebrations and beliefs of world religions. The PHSE and Citizenship curriculum contain aspects that promote respect for all.

The curricular programme for history and geography celebrates the achievements of local, national and international figures.

The school admissions policy follows the Birmingham Local Authority guidelines which does not permit gender, race, colour, or disability to be used as criteria for admission.

When selecting classroom resources, teachers are sensitive of all members of the class and do not provide material that may be seen as racist, homophobic or sexist in nature.

In assemblies stories and poems from a variety of cultures and faiths and real life situations are used to challenge racism and stereotypes.

The needs of all pupils will be met, for further information refer to the Special Educational Needs policy and School Offer for SEND on the school website [www.grove.bham.sch.uk/keyinformation](http://www.grove.bham.sch.uk/keyinformation) and parents/school policies

#### **F. The role of the Governing Body**

The Governing Body is committed to promoting race equality and equal opportunities and will do all it can to ensure that all members of the school community are treated fairly and equally.

They will:

- Ensure that the school has a written policy on equality objectives and review this policy annually

- Ensure that the school continues to assess the impact of its policies on all ethnic groups
- Ensure that no one is discriminated against when applying for jobs at the school
- The Governing Body ensures that everyone is treated equally when applying for posts at the school and there are rigorous checks in place with regard to the recruitment process
- The Governing Body will ensure that no child is discriminated against on any basis whilst in Grove School.

#### **G. The role of the Head teacher**

- The Head teacher will oversee the implementation of the school's equality objectives and is supported by the governing body in so doing.
- The head teacher will ensure that all staff are aware of the policy and apply the guidelines in all situations.
- The head teacher ensures that all appointment panels give due regard to the policy so that no one is discriminated against when it comes to employment or training opportunities.
- The head teacher treats all incidents of unfair treatment any racist incidents with due seriousness.

#### **H. The role of all staff and visitors to Grove**

All staff working with pupils ensures that all pupils are treated fairly, equally and with respect. No child is discriminated against.

All staff and visitors should:

- deal with racist, homophobic and other hate-incidents;
- be able to recognise and tackle bias and stereotyping;
- promote equal opportunities and good race relations;
- avoid discrimination against anyone for reasons of ethnicity, disability or gender;
- keep up to date with the law on discrimination;

When selecting materials, all staff pay due regard to the sensitivities of all members of the class and do not provide material that is racist or sexist in nature. To promote race

equality, all staff strive to provide material that gives positive images of ethnic groups and that challenges stereotypical images

All staff have a responsibility to challenge any incidents of prejudice or racism. The school trains staff in 'Dignity at work' procedures in conjunction with Birmingham City Council.

Induction of new staff includes: whistleblowing, no platform in schools, dignity at work and the Birmingham City Council code of conduct.

### **I. Monitoring and review**

The school will monitor the impact of this policy on pupils, parents and staff. In particular, we will monitor the impact of our policies on the attainment levels of our pupils.

To monitor our pupils' attainment we will collect information about pupils performance and progress, analyse it and use it to examine trends. To help interpret this information we will monitor other areas that could have an adverse impact on pupils' attainment such as:

- Exclusion
- Attendance
- Curriculum, teaching and learning (including language and cultural needs) and provision for pupils with special educational needs
- Parental involvement

Monitoring information will help us to

- Highlight any difference between pupils
- Ask why these differences exist and test explanations given
- Review the effectiveness of current targets and objectives
- Decide what further action will be necessary to meet particular needs and to improve the performance of pupils
- Rethink and set targets in relevant strategic plans
- Links will be made with Performance Management objectives which will include qualitative information as well as quantitative data
- Take action to make improvements

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

Policies linked with further information:

Grove School Thinking curriculum  
PSHE curriculum  
Collective Worship Policy  
Safeguarding & Child Protection Policy  
Special Educational Needs Policy  
Accessibility Plan  
SEND School Offer  
Attendance Policy  
Educational visits Policy  
Whistle Blowing Policy  
Behaviour Policy  
Anti -bullying Policy  
No Platform in Schools Policy

#### **J. Public sector equality duty**

**A public authority must, in the exercise of its functions, have due regard to the need to—**

- (a) eliminate discrimination, harassment, victimisation and any other conduct that is prohibited by or under this Act;
  - (b) advance equality of opportunity between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it;
  - (c) foster good relations between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it.
- (2) A person who is not a public authority but who exercises public functions must, in the exercise of those functions, have due regard to the matters mentioned in subsection (1).
- (3) Having due regard to the need to advance equality of opportunity between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it involves having due regard, in particular, to the need to—
- (a) remove or minimise disadvantages suffered by persons who share a relevant protected characteristic that are connected to that characteristic;



(b)take steps to meet the needs of persons who share a relevant protected characteristic that are different from the needs of persons who do not share it;

(c)encourage persons who share a relevant protected characteristic to participate in public life or in any other activity in which participation by such persons is disproportionately low.

(4)The steps involved in meeting the needs of disabled persons that are different from the needs of persons who are not disabled include, in particular, steps to take account of disabled persons' disabilities.

(5)Having due regard to the need to foster good relations between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it involves having due regard, in particular, to the need to—

(a)tackle prejudice, and

(b)promote understanding.

(6)Compliance with the duties in this section may involve treating some persons more favourably than others; but that is not to be taken as permitting conduct that would otherwise be prohibited by or under this Act.

(7)The relevant protected characteristics are—

- age;
- disability;
- gender reassignment;
- pregnancy and maternity;
- race;
- religion or belief;
- sex;
- sexual orientation.

(8)A reference to conduct that is prohibited by or under this Act includes a reference to—

(a)a breach of an equality clause or rule;

(b)a breach of a non-discrimination rule.

(9)Schedule 18 (exceptions) has effect.