

Tickhill Estfeld Primary School
Whole School Equality Policy
March 2015

Introduction

At Tickhill Estfeld Primary School we value the individuality of all our children and we are committed to giving each of them every opportunity to achieve the highest of standards. Within this ethos of achievement, we do not tolerate bullying and harassment of any kind. This policy helps to ensure that this school promotes the individuality of all our children, irrespective of ethnicity, attainment, age, disability, gender or background. We aim to reflect the multi-ethnic nature of our society and ensure that the education we offer fosters positive attitudes to all people.

This policy reflects the general and specific duties on schools as detailed in The Race Relations Act 1976 and as amended by The Race Relations (Amendment) Act 2000. This policy must be read in conjunction with other related school policies - Anti-bullying, Equal Opportunities, and Special Educational Needs. The Equality Act 2010 was introduced to ensure protection from discrimination, harassment and victimisation on the grounds of specific characteristics (referred to as protected characteristics). This means that schools cannot discriminate against pupils or treat them less favourably because of their sex (gender), race, disability, religion or belief, gender reassignment, sexual orientation or pregnancy or maternity. Age and marriage and civil partnership are also "protected characteristics" but are not part of the school provisions related to pupils. The Act requires all public organisations, including schools to comply with the general Public Sector Equality Duty and two specific duties.

The General Duty requires us to have due regard to the need to:

- eliminate racial discrimination;
- promote equality of opportunity;
- promote good relations between people of different racial groups.

The specific duties require us to:

- prepare a written policy on racial equality;
- assess the impact of our policies, including this policy, on pupils, staff and parents of different racial groups including, in particular, the impact on attainment levels of these pupils;

- monitor the operation of our policies through the impact they have on such pupils, staff and parents, with particular reference to their impact on the attainment levels of such pupils.

Aims

In our school we aim to tackle racial discrimination and promote equality of opportunity and good race relations across all aspects of school life.

We do this by:

- creating an ethos in which pupils and staff feel valued and secure;
- building self-esteem and confidence in our pupils, so that they can then use these qualities to influence their own relationships with others;
- having consistent expectations of pupils and their learning;
- removing or minimising barriers to learning, so that all pupils can achieve;
- ensuring that our teaching takes into account the learning needs of all pupils through our schemes of work and lesson planning;
- actively tackling racial discrimination and promoting racial equality through our school prospectus, newsletters to parents and displays of work;
- regular consultation with parents/carers and members of the local community, so that they are well informed of our policy and procedures;
- making clear to our pupils what constitutes aggressive and racist behaviour;
- identifying clear procedures for dealing quickly with incidents of racist behaviour;
- making pupils and staff confident to challenge racist and aggressive behaviour.

Teaching and learning style

We aim to provide all our pupils with the opportunity to succeed, and to reach the

highest level of personal achievement. To do this, teaching and learning will:

- ensure equality of access for all pupils and prepare them for life in a diverse society;
- use materials that reflect a range of cultural backgrounds, without stereotyping;

- promote attitudes and values that will challenge racist behaviour;
- provide opportunities for pupils to appreciate their own culture and celebrate the diversity of other cultures;
- seek to involve all parents in supporting their child's education;
- provide educational visits and extra-curricular activities that reflect all pupil groupings;
- take account of the performance of all pupils when planning for future learning and setting challenging targets;
- make best use of all available resources to support the learning of all groups of pupils.

Tackling racial harassment

Any incident of racial harassment is unacceptable in our school. Incidents could take the form of physical assault, verbal abuse, and damage to a pupil's property or lack of co-operation in a lesson, due to the ethnicity of a pupil. Any adult witnessing an incident or being informed about an incident must follow these agreed procedures:

- stop the incident and comfort the victim;
- report the incident to the headteacher or class teacher and inform who will take appropriate action regarding the aggressor and victim
- the headteacher will inform the class teachers of those involved and record the incident using the SIMs management system
- the headteacher will inform both sets of parents or carers of the incident and action taken.

Diversity

The diversity of our society is addressed through our schemes of work that reflect the programmes of study of the National Curriculum. Teachers are flexible in their planning and offer appropriate challenges to all pupils, regardless of ethnicity. All racist incidents are recorded and reported to the LA and the governing body by the Headteacher.

Policy impact

We make regular assessments of all pupils' learning and use this information to track pupils' progress, as they move through the school. As part of this process, we regularly monitor the performance of different vulnerable groups, including ethnic groups, to ensure that all groups of pupils are making the best possible progress. We use this information to adjust future teaching and learning plans, as necessary. Resources are available to support groups of pupils where the information suggests

that progress is not as good as it should be. The governing body receives regular updates on pupil performance information.

School performance information is compared to national data and LA data, to ensure that pupils are making appropriate progress when compared to all schools, and to schools in similar circumstances.

In addition to monitoring pupil performance information, we also regularly monitor a range of other information. This includes:

- exclusions;
- attendance
- behaviour
- incidents of racism, racial harassment and bullying;
- FSM
- SEN

Our monitoring activities enable us to identify any differences in pupil performance. This allows us to take appropriate action to meet the needs of specific groups and to set targets in our School Improvement Plan where appropriate, in order to make the necessary improvements.

Staff development

All members of staff are entitled to appropriate training, in order that they can play their full part in ensuring that our school promotes racial equality. Training is linked to priorities within the School Improvement Plan. Funding for professional development is identified within the School Budget. Members of the governing body will also identify their own training needs in relation to racial equality.

The school is required to supply the LA with employment data related to racial groups employed by the school.

Review Date: March 2017