OAKMERE PRIMARY SCHOOL Equality Information and Objectives POLICY



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Headteacher Signature:

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Chair of Governors Signature:

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1. Aims

Our school aims to meet its obligations under the Public Sector Equality Duty (PSED) 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: <u>The Equality Act 2010</u> and schools.

3. Roles and responsibilities

The governing board 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
- > Ensure that the published equality information is updated at least every year, and that the objectives are reviewed and updated at least every 4 years
- Delegate responsibility for monitoring the achievement of the objectives on a daily basis to the headteacher

The headteacher will:

- > Promote knowledge and understanding of the equality objectives among staff and pupils
- Monitor success in achieving the objectives and report back to governors

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 governors 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.

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 that are connected to a particular characteristic they have (e.g. pupils with disabilities, ethnic group)
- Taking steps to meet the particular needs of people who have a particular characteristic
- ➤ Encouraging people who have a particular characteristic to participate fully in any activities

 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 data referenced above to determine strengths and areas for improvement, implement actions in response and publish this information

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 tolerance, friendship and understanding of a range of religions and cultures through different aspects of our curriculum. This includes teaching in RE, 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.

> We have developed links with people and groups who have specialist knowledge about particular characteristics, which helps inform and develop our approach.

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 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

Our equality objectives are:

- 1. To promote cultural understanding and awareness, valuing and celebrating various cultures and religious beliefs amongst different ethnic groups within our school community
- 2. To monitor and promote the involvement of all groups of students in the extra-curricular life of the school, including leadership opportunities
- 3. To actively close gaps in attainment and achievement between students and all groups of students; especially boys, students eligible for free-school meals, students with special educational needs and disabilities, looked after children and students from minority ethnic groups
- 4. To provide appropriate and early pastoral interventions for students to promote positive behaviour and inclusion, especially for those groups over-represented in behaviour data (including boys and students with special educational needs)
- 5. To ensure accessibility across the school for students, staff and visitors with disabilities, including access to specialist teaching
- 6. To provide role-models for all students, ensuring diversity in the staff body, visiting speakers and in leadership roles
- 7. To diversify the curriculum in all areas to ensure respect, kindness and responsibility is embedded.
- 8. To reduce the incidence of the use of discriminatory language and prejudice-based bullying by students in the school.
- 9. To encourage teamwork amongst children in order to develop team working skills and create a culture of achieving great things together.

- 10. To encourage ambition and resilience to ensure all children are able to achieve their full potential.
- 11. To ensure the consistent recording, reporting and action by staff following incidents of discriminatory language and behaviour, including bullying
- 12. To review relevant school policies and publications to ensure they clearly reflect the aim of inclusivity

9. Monitoring arrangements

The headteacher will update the equality information we publish at least every year.

This document will be reviewed and approved by governing board and the headteacher at least every 4 years.

10. Links with other policies

This document links to the following policies:

- > Accessibility Plan
- > Attendance Policy
- > Child Protection Policy
- > SEN and Disability Report