

St Mary's C of E Primary

Name of Policy: Equality Information and Objectives

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Review date: July 2027

This school is committed to safeguarding and promoting the wellbeing of all children, and expects our staff and volunteers to share this commitment. Please report any safeguarding or child protection concerns to the designated teachers for Child Protection:

Mrs Benson, Mrs Whitehead & Mr Butterwick

The Governors and Staff of St Mary's CE Primary School are committed to educating the children spiritually, academically, emotionally and physically within a distinctive Christian ethos.

“Together we inspire and nurture so that everyone can flourish”

Love, respect and moral understanding lie at the heart of the ethos of St Mary's Church of England Primary School. We see our learners as the future custodians of God's world. We aim to nurture and encourage happy individuals who are socially engaged and curious about life within and beyond their own community. We value and encourage difference and diversity. St Mary's is a nurturing, safe place for children to question, to learn to love and respect other people and to discover their place in the world. We have traditional values, rooted in the Christian faith, as well as global, 21st Century aspirations for all our pupils.

St Mary's is part of the Wharfe Valley Learning Partnership, a collaborative of schools in Wetherby and Boston Spa, where the vision for all children is to be respectful, globally aware and compassionate as well as ambitious, resilient and engaged in their learning.



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 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/carers, and that they are reviewed and updated at least once every four years
- Delegate responsibility for monitoring the achievement of the objectives on a daily basis to the headteacher.

The equality link governor is Nick Morgan. They will:

- Meet with the designated member of staff for equality every 4 months, 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 governing board 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 governors

The designated member of staff for equality is Liz Smith. She will:

- Support the headteacher in promoting knowledge and understanding of the equality objectives amongst staff and pupils
- Meet with the equality link governor every 4 months to raise and discuss any issues
- Support the headteacher 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 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.

The school has a designated member of staff for monitoring equality issues, and an equality link governor. They regularly liaise regarding any issues and make senior leaders and governors 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 gay pupils who are being subjected to homophobic bullying)
- Taking steps to meet the particular needs of people who have a particular characteristic (e.g. enabling Muslim pupils to have access to a hygiene suite)
- Encouraging people who have a particular characteristic to participate fully in any activities (e.g. encouraging all pupils to be involved in a range of extra-curricular clubs)

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)

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 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 collective worship dealing with relevant issues. Pupils will be encouraged to take a lead in such collective worships 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 collective worships, and organising school trips and activities based around the local community

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

8. Equality Objectives – 2023-2027

Objective 1: *To further promote spiritual, moral, social and cultural development through all appropriate curricular opportunities, with particular reference to issues of equality and diversity*

We have chosen this objective because there is very little ethnic diversity within our school community. We feel that it is very important that our pupils gain and appreciate a broader cultural perspective and what makes a fair and equitable society.

To achieve this objective, we plan to:

- Specifically plan for opportunities across school, and continue to build on knowledge, where we can support our pupils to gain and appreciate a broader cultural perspective.

Objective 2: *To increase the number of disadvantaged children attaining combined ARE and the higher standard of attainment.*

We have chosen this objective because compared to other children nationally the number of disadvantaged children achieving combined ARE is lower.

To achieve this objective, we plan to:

- Please see our [Pupil Premium Strategy](#)

Objective 3: *Increase the amount of extra-curricular activities available for Key Stage One Children.*

We have chosen this objective because a lot of our extra-curricular activities are for older children and parents and children have expressed a need for more activities for younger children. We also recognize the benefits of this to early development.

To achieve this objective, we plan to:

- Offer more extra-curricular activities for EYFS and Key Stage One children.

9. Monitoring Arrangements

The headteacher will update the equality information that we publish, described in sections 4-7, at least every year.

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