



# **Pashley Down Infant School**

**Learning at Pashley is an amazing adventure**

## **Equality Information and Objectives Policy**

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**March 2025**

Next Review:

**March 2027**

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## **1. Statement of intent**

Pashley Down Infant School recognises that certain groups in society have historically been disadvantaged because of unlawful discrimination they have faced due to their race, sex, disability, gender reassignment, marriage/civil partnership, religion/belief, sexual orientation, or age.

This policy will put in place a range of actions to eliminate prejudice, unlawful discrimination and victimisation within the school community and workforce.

## **2. Legal Framework**

This policy has due regard to all relevant legislation and statutory guidance including, but not limited to, the following:

- Human Rights Act 1998
- Special Educational Needs and Disability Regulations 2014
- Education and Inspections Act 2006
- Equality Act 2010
- Equality Act 2010 (Specific Duties and Public Authorities) Regulations 2017
- Public Sector Equality Duty (PSED)
- General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR)

This policy also has due regard for non-statutory guidance, including the following:

- DfE (2014) 'The Equality Act 2010 and schools'

This policy operates in conjunction with the following school policies:

- Admissions Policy
- Complaints Procedures Policy
- Equal Opportunities Policy

The Equality Act 2010 provides a modern, single legal framework with three broad duties:

- Eliminate discrimination
- Advance equality of opportunity
- Foster good relations

For the purpose of this policy, the Equality Act 2010 will be referred to as 'the Act'.

The school fully understands the principles of the Act and the work needed to ensure that those with protected characteristics are not discriminated against and are given equal opportunities.

Protected characteristics, under the Act, are as follows:

- Age

- Disability
- Race, colour, nationality or ethnicity
- Sex
- Gender reassignment
- Maternity and pregnancy
- Religion and belief
- Sexual orientation
- Marriage and civil partnership

The Act makes it unlawful for the responsible board of a school to discriminate against, harass or victimise a pupil or potential pupil:

- In relation to admissions.
- In the way it provides education for pupils.
- In the way it provides pupils access to any benefit, facility or service.
- By excluding a pupil or subjecting them to any other detriment.

The responsible board for the school is the governing board or the LA.

The school's liability not to discriminate, harass or victimise does not end when a pupil has left the school, but will apply to subsequent actions connected to the previous relationship between school and pupil, such as the provision of references on former pupils or access to "old pupils" communications and activities

The school will promote equality of opportunity for all staff and job applicants and will work in line with the Equal Opportunities and Dignity at Work Policy.

### **3. Principles and aims**

We see all learners and potential learners, and their parents, as of equal value, regardless of any protected characteristic.

Our policies, procedures and activities will not discriminate but must nevertheless take account of differences in life-experience, outlook and background, and in the kinds of barriers and disadvantages which people may face in relation to any protected characteristic.

The school will promote race equality and have due regard to eliminating unlawful racial discrimination, promoting equality of opportunity and good relations between people of different racial groups.

The school will promote disability equality, ensuring equality of opportunity, eliminating unlawful discrimination and disability-related harassment and encouraging participation by disabled people in public life.

The school will promote gender equality by eliminating unlawful discrimination and harassment, and promote the equality of opportunity between men and women, girls and boys.

Transgender people are explicitly covered by the PSED. For the purposes of this policy, the term 'transgender' refers to an individual whose gender expression or identity is different from that traditionally associated with the sex they were assigned at birth.

The school will respect the confidentiality of those seeking gender reassignment and will provide a supportive environment within the community.

The school is opposed to all forms of prejudice and recognises that children and young people who experience any form of prejudice-related discrimination may fare less well in the education system.

The school will ensure that all staff comply with the appropriate equality legislation and regulations.

The school's Admissions Policy will not discriminate against any protected characteristic in any way.

**The school will:**

- Ensure staff are aware of their responsibilities, given necessary training and support.
- Foster positive attitudes and relationships, a shared sense of cohesion and belonging, and ensure this is promoted in our policies, procedures and activities.
- Observe good equalities practice in staff recruitment, retention and development, and ensure that all policies and procedures benefit all employees and potential employees regardless of any protected characteristic, and with full respect for legal rights relating to pregnancy and maternity.
- Reduce and remove inequalities and barriers that already exist.
- Engage with a range of groups and individuals to ensure that those who are affected by a policy, procedure or activity are consulted and involved in the design of new policies, and in the review of existing ones.
- Ensure that policies, procedures and activities benefit society as a whole, both locally and nationally, by fostering greater social cohesion, and greater participation in the public life of everyone, regardless of any protected characteristic.
- Ensure staff promote an inclusive and collaborative ethos in the school, challenging inappropriate language and behaviour, responding appropriately to incidents of discrimination and harassment, and showing appropriate support for pupils with additional needs, maintaining a good level of awareness of issues surrounding equality.

#### **4. Roles and responsibilities**

**The governing board will:**

- Ensure that the school complies with the appropriate equality legislation and regulations.

- Meet its obligations under the PSED to publish equality objectives at least every four years commencing on the date of the last publication.
- Ensure that the school's policies and procedures are developed and implemented with appropriate equality impact assessments informing future plans.
- Ensure that the school's Admissions Policy does not discriminate in any way.
- Ensure equal opportunities in its staff recruitment and promotion practices, professional development programmes and in membership of the governing board.
- Provide information in appropriate and accessible formats.
- Ensure that the necessary disciplinary measures are in place to enforce this policy.

**The headteacher will:**

- Implement this policy and its procedures.
- Ensure that all staff members receive the appropriate equality and diversity training as part of their induction and CPD.
- Ensure that all parents, visitors and contractors are aware of, and comply with, the provisions of this policy.
- Actively challenge and take appropriate action in any case of discriminatory practice.
- Address any reported incidents of harassment or bullying in line with DfE guidance.

**Employees will:**

- Be mindful of any incidents of harassment or bullying in the school.
- Address any minor issues of harassment or bullying and report any major breaches of the policy to the headteacher.
- Identify and challenge bias and stereotyping within the curriculum and the school's culture.
- Promote equality and good relations, and not harass or discriminate in any way.
- Monitor pupils' progress and academic needs to ensure the appropriate support is in place.
- Keep up-to-date with equality legislation and its application by attending the appropriate training.

**Pupils will:**

- Not discriminate or harass any other pupil or staff member.
- Actively encourage equality and diversity in the school by contributing their cultural experiences and values.
- Report any incidences of bullying or harassment, whether to themselves or to others, to their line leader or to another member of staff.

- Abide by all the school's equality and diversity policies, procedures and codes.

The school will have an equality policy on its website, in order to demonstrate how it is complying with the PSED in the Equality Act 2010, and advancing equality of opportunity.

## **5. Equality objectives**

The school is committed to promoting the welfare and equality of all its staff, pupils and other members of the school community. To achieve this, the school has established the following objectives:

- Monitor changes to the curriculum to ensure they result in good outcomes for pupils in all vulnerable groups, and to review the curriculum considering new performance measures
- Improve the quality of support for pupils in all vulnerable groups in the classroom
- Continue to explore the use of new technologies to support pupils in all vulnerable groups in accessing their learning.
- To further raise inclusion of 'wide social diversity' throughout the school.
- The school will update all published equality documentation every two years and will publish its objectives at least every four years.

## **6. Collecting and using information**

The school will collect equality information for the purpose of:

- Identifying key issues, e.g. unlawful discrimination in teaching methods.
- Assessing performance, e.g. benchmarking against similar organisations locally or nationally.
- Taking action, e.g. adapting working practice to accommodate the needs of staff who share protected characteristics.

The school will build an equality profile for staff to assist with identifying any issues within their recruitment regime. The school will obtain the following information from their staff:

- Recruitment and promotion
- Numbers of part-time and full-time staff
- Pay and remuneration
- Training
- Return to work of women on maternity leave
- Return to work of disabled employees following sick leave relating to their disabilities
- Appraisals
- Grievances (including about harassment)

- Disciplinary action (including for harassment)
- Dismissals and other reasons for leaving

The school will use the information they obtain to analyse any gaps present in their equality documentary, including the Equal Opportunities Policy.

Any personal data the school collects will be processed in accordance with the Data Protection Policy.

## **7. Publishing information**

The school will publish information to demonstrate its compliance with the Act.

The school will publish information relating to persons within the school community who share relevant protected characteristics, these will include:

- Persons affected by the school's policies and procedures

The school will not provide this information if:

- The employee is employed under contract personally to do work.
- The employer does not have, and it is not reasonably practicable for the employer to obtain the data.

## **8. Promoting equality**

In order to meet our objectives, the school has identified the following priorities:

- The school will provide auxiliary aids that are directly related to disabled pupil's educational needs as a reasonable adjustment, so they can integrate wholly in all parts of school life.
- Staff will ensure that all pupils are able to take part in extra-curricular activities and residential visits, and the school will monitor uptake of these visits to ensure no one is disadvantaged on the grounds of a protected characteristic.
- The school will ensure that all forms of prejudice-motivated bullying is recorded in line with the behaviour systems including actions taken and taken seriously and dealt with equally and firmly.
- Within reason there will be differential schemes of work designed to meet the abilities and learning styles of all pupils.
- There will be a clearly defined disciplinary system stipulated in the Behavioural Policy, which will be consistently enforced.
- The school, where feasible, will increase access for disabled children and young people to the school curriculum and will take necessary steps to meet pupils' needs by using a variety of approaches and planning reasonable adjustments for disabled pupils, enabling them to take as full a part as possible in the activities of the school.

- The school will ensure, where feasible, there is adequate access to the physical environment of the school.
- The school will ensure the correct delivery of written information to disabled children and young people.
- The school will seek the views of advisory staff, outside agencies and local schools where necessary.
- Throughout the year, the school will plan ongoing events to raise awareness of equality and diversity. For example, Odd Sock Day.

The school will consult with stakeholders to establish equality objectives and draw up a plan based on information collected on protected groups and accessibility planning.

Equality objectives will be published at least every four years commencing on the date of the last publication.

Bullying and prejudice will be carefully monitored and dealt with accordingly.

Annual training will be given to both existing and new staff to ensure that they are aware of the process for reporting and following up incidents of prejudice-related bullying.

## **9. Addressing prejudice-related incidents**

The school is opposed to all forms of prejudice, and we recognise that pupils and staff who experience any form of prejudice-related discrimination may fare less well in the education system.

The school will ensure that pupils and staff are aware of the impact of prejudice in order to prevent any incidents from occurring.

If incidents continue to occur, the school will address them immediately and report them to the LA.

## **10. Appeal process**

Staff members retain the right to appeal against a decision on the acceptability of their appearance e.g. dress code, using the school's grievance procedure.

The school will adhere to the Complaints Procedures Policy when following the grievance procedure.

## **11. Curriculum**

All pupils will be entitled to access a broad and balanced curriculum and to teaching and learning opportunities which meet their needs, including extra support where this has been identified as a statutory need.

When planning the curriculum, the school will take every opportunity to promote and advance equality.



When teaching the curriculum, the school will promote equality and will not subject individuals to discrimination.

The school will develop an appropriate curriculum for all pupils in all vulnerable groups.

The school will ensure PSHE lessons are designed for pupils to develop their knowledge of the world and the importance of equality.

## **12. Monitoring and review**

The headteacher will review this policy every two years to ensure that all procedures are up-to-date.

The policy will be monitored and evaluated by the headteacher and governing body in the following ways:

- Attainment data
- Equal opportunities recruitment data
- Ofsted inspection judgements on equality and diversity
- Incident records related to harassment and bullying

Any changes made to this policy will be communicated to all members of staff.

## Action Plan

<b>Identified concern:</b>	<b>The school has identified there is a learning need for some children to understand the importance of racial equality and that ‘everybody’ is different’ at an infant age appropriate level.</b>
<b>Objective:</b>	To increase awareness of, and have processes in place which effectively identify and remedy, any racial comments, (including those classified as bullying and non-bullying) promoting a culture of inclusivity and understanding.
<b>Aim:</b>	To ensure that pupils, parents and staff understand an accurate definition of bullying and what is not bullying and ensure that school processes and procedures are effective in preventing bullying and tackling it should it occur.
<b>Action:</b>	<p>To achieve this objective, the school will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Train staff so that they know how to effectively tackle incidents of racial comments including racial bullying</li> <li>• Promote a culture of inclusivity and understanding by encouraging open communication.</li> <li>• Ensure that children know the difference to one off incidents of unkindness and bullying</li> <li>• Ensure that pupils know who and how to report incidents of bullying to.</li> <li>• Purchase up to date resources including books which show different races positively</li> </ul>
<b>Responsibility:</b>	The headteacher will be responsible for developing this objective and implementing the appropriate actions.
<b>Affected parties:</b>	Children and families who have been a victim of racial bullying have been asked how the school can help to reduce prejudicial behaviour and promote a culture of understanding. They have also been asked to work with the school on any additional resources that the school can provide
<b>Timescales:</b>	Ongoing.
<b>Success criteria:</b>	Understanding of racial equality is evidenced through staff voice in Life Skills and Values CPD and records of racial incidents is eliminated or reduced.
<b>Ongoing Evaluation</b>	<p>January 2023 – racial incidents have reduced. Incidents of racism recorded over 2024 found children who have made racial comments have not done so with intent to discriminate.</p> <p>New high quality book texts have been purchased. These have been selected as part of replacing old scheme books. Additional individual texts have also been purchased and are available for staff to use to re-enforce the importance of equality.</p> <p>In Parent Council Term 1 2022 a parent shared additional texts which they thought would be useful. Some of these have been shared with classes.</p>

## **Equality Information – January 2025**

Our school makes all members of our community feel welcome and valued. Our vision and values promote inclusion and equality and tackle discrimination. We have high expectations for all our pupils irrespective of their age, disability, gender reassignment, race, religion or belief, sex or sexual orientation. Our equalities statement is guided by some core principles:

- Learners are all unique children who together are one;
- We show understanding, compassion and care to all
- We foster positive attitudes and relationships and a shared sense of community and belonging;
- We observe good practice in recruitment, retention and staff development;
- We aim to reduce and challenge barriers to any equality.

Pupil Information by protected characteristics in line with the PSED (Public Sector Equality Duty) of the Equality Act 2010 we publish the following data:

<b>Characteristic</b>	<b>Breakdown</b>
Number of pupils	235 54% male, 46% female
Age Range	4 - 7
Disability	0
Religion	Non-denominational school
Attainment on entry	Around 70% of children enter in line with the national on entry in Reading, Writing and Maths from a catchment which extends beyond Pashley.
Pupil Mobility	<p>3% (7) of the current NOR joined the school during the last academic year from other schools.</p> <p>1.7% (4) children left the school as they moved out of the area in the last academic year.</p> <p><i>*This data is based on mobility only and not on pupils moving on to primary school.</i></p>
Free School Meals	100% (235)
Eligible for Pupil Premium	19% (45)

Ethnicity	Afghan	1	0.4%	
	Any Other Asian Background	1	0.4%	
	Any Other Mixed Background	7	2.9%	
	Any Other White Background	13	5.4%	
	Arab Other	2	0.8%	
	Indian	4	1.7%	
	Other Black	1	0.4%	
	Other Mixed Background	1	0.4%	
	Other White British	3	1.3%	
	Pakistani	2	0.8%	
	Sri Lankan Sinhalese	1	0.4%	
	Thai	1	0.4%	
	White - British	183	76.6%	
	White - English	4	1.7%	
	White and Any Other Ethnic Group	1	0.4%	
	White and Asian	3	1.3%	
	White and Black African	5	2.1%	
	White and Black Caribbean	5	2.1%	
	White European	1	0.4%	
English as an additional language	12%			
Special Educational Needs	20%			
Average attendance rate	94.31%			
Awards, accreditations, recognitions	Gold Quality Start Award Eco-Schools Award 21-22 Primary Science Quality Mark Artsmark Award			

#### **Current Staffing Information:**

Number of staff	63	12% male	88% female
Number of governors	11	40% male	60% female

Age:	Age range 20 - 65
Promotion:	5% of staff in the last year
Recruitment:	8% of staff in the last year
Numbers of part-time and full-time staff:	full-time staff: 12% part-time 88%
Pay and remuneration	4%
Return to work of women on maternity leave	2%
Disability	None
Return to work of disabled employees following sick leave relating to their disability	None
Appraisals and Training	Ongoing
Grievances (including about harassment)	None
Disciplinary action (including for harassment)	None
Dismissals and other reasons for leaving.	None