Church Hill Infant School



Equality Policy and Objectives 2025-2028

Reviewed	January 2025
Frequency of Review	Every three years
Written by	Claire Elliott
Consulted with:	Full staff

1. Legal Framework

This document meets the requirements under the following legislation:

- <u>The Equality Act 2010</u>, which introduced the Public Sector Equality Duty and protects people from discrimination
- <u>The Equality Act 2010 (Specific Duties) Regulations 2011</u>, 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 and schools</u>. This document also complies with our funding agreement and articles of association.

2. Aims

Church Hill Infant 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

We are committed to giving all our children every opportunity to achieve the highest of standards. We do this by taking account of pupils' varied experiences and needs. We offer a broad and balanced curriculum, and have high expectations of all children. The achievements, attitudes and well-being of all our children matter. This policy is intended to help to ensure that this school promotes the individuality of all children, irrespective of ethnicity, religion, attainment, age, disability, gender or background.

In our school:

- We promote the principle of fairness and justice for all through the education that we provide in our school.
- We seek to ensure that all pupils have equal access to the full range of educational opportunities provided by the school making reasonable adjustments for those pupils with a specific need or disability.
- We constantly strive to remove any forms of indirect discrimination that may form barriers to learning for some groups.
- We ensure that all recruitment, employment, promotion and training systems are fair to all and do not discriminate against any one group and provide opportunities for everyone.
- We challenge personal prejudice and stereotypical views whenever they occur.
- We value each pupil's worth, we celebrate the individuality and cultural diversity of the community centered on our school, and we show respect for all minority groups.
- We are aware that prejudice and stereotyping are caused by poor self-image and by ignorance. Through positive educational experiences, and support for each individual's legitimate point of view, we aim to promote positive social attitudes, and respect for each other.

3. Roles and responsibilities

The headteacher will:

- Ensure that the equality information and objectives as set out in this statement are published and communicated throughout the school
- Ensure that the published equality information is reviewed and updated at least every 3 years
- Delegate responsibility for monitoring the achievement of the objectives on a daily basis to the senior leadership team

- Promote knowledge and understanding of the equality objectives among staff and pupils
- Monitor success in achieving the objectives

The designated member of staff for equality (PSHE and PD Leads) will:

- Support the headteacher in promoting knowledge and understanding of the equality objectives among staff and pupils
- 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 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.

New staff receive training on the Equality Act as part of their induction, and all staff receive regular updates / refresher information

The school has a designated member of staff for monitoring equality issues

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, 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 pray at prescribed times)
- Encouraging people who have a particular characteristic to participate fully in any activities (e.g. encouraging all pupils to be involved in the full range of school societies)

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
- Make evidence available identifying improvements for specific groups (e.g. declines in incidents of homophobic or transphobic bullying)
- Publish further data about any issues associated with particular protected characteristics, identifying any issues which could affect our own pupils

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.
- Promoting awareness and understanding of a range of different families, identities, backgrounds and situations through teaching in PSHE and citizenship through our Jigsaw PSHE curriculum, and

RE curriculum.

- Whole school assemblies dealing with relevant issues. Encourage contributions from pupils and members of the wider community.
- 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
- Celebrating diversity and organising awareness raising events across school

7. Monitoring and Review

It is the responsibility of the headteacher and PSHE lead to monitor the effectiveness of this policy. They will therefore:

- monitor the progress of pupils from all groups, comparing it to the progress made by other pupils in the school;
- monitor the staff appointment process, so that no-one applying for a post at this school is discriminated against;
- require the headteacher to report on the effectiveness of this policy;
- take into serious consideration any complaints from parents, staff or pupils regarding equal opportunity;
- monitor the school's behaviour policy, and the numbers of exclusions, to make sure that pupils from minority groups are not unfairly treated

Our Equality Objectives

- To continue to embed a culture of inclusivity throughout all aspects of school life
- For our staff to be good role models by valuing equality for themselves and others and being prepared to challenge and take action against discrimination they face or witness
- For our pupils to begin to understand equality for themselves and others and be able to express if they face discrimination.
- To ensure that pupils feel safe and secure in school and reach their full potential
- To prepare our pupils for life in modern Britain through a celebration of our differences

