

**ST PATRICK'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL,
A VOLUNTARY ACADEMY**



EQUALITY POLICY

**St Patrick's Catholic Primary School,
A Voluntary Academy**



**POLICIES & PROCEDURES
DOCUMENT CONTROL SYSTEM**

Controlled Document reference:

Document Title: **EQUALITY POLICY**

Date of creation: January 2017

Date of last review: January 2019

Scheduled review date: January 2021



St Patrick's Catholic Primary School, A Voluntary Academy

Mission Statement

'Belonging, caring and sharing, safe in the arms of God's love.'

We aim to promote the overall growth of the child.

To achieve this aim, we will:

- provide a safe, secure and caring environment
- allow children to experience the feeling of success
- develop the confidence to face new challenges
- establish a sense of belonging
- foster social, spiritual, academic and moral development
- strive towards the highest standards
- create an environment which develops each individual to his/her full potential

We aim to establish a working relationship in partnership with home, school, parish, diocese and the wider community.

To achieve this aim, the school will:

- provide a sense of direction
- establish and maintain a sense of trust
- promote co-operation between members
- develop a code of conduct
- be guided by the Bishop, under the principles of Our Lady of Lourdes Trust

EQUALITY STATEMENT

Legal Duties

As a school we welcome our duties under the Equality Act 2010. The general duties are to:

- • eliminate discrimination,
- • advance equality of opportunity
- • foster good relations

We understand the principle of the act and the work needed to ensure that those with protected characteristics are not discriminated against and are given equality of opportunity.

A protected characteristic under the act covers the groups listed below:

- • age (for employees not for service provision),
- • disability
- • race
- • sex (including issues of transgender)
- • gender reassignment
- • maternity and pregnancy
- • religion and belief,
- • sexual orientation
- • Marriage and Civil Partnership (for employees)

In order to meet our general duties, listed above, the law requires us to do some specific duties to demonstrate how we meet the general duties. These are to:

- • Publish equality Information – to demonstrate compliance with the general duty across its functions (**We will not publish any information that can specifically identify any child**)
- • Prepare and publish equality objectives

To do this we will collect data related to the protected characteristics above and analyse this data to determine our focus for our equality objectives. The data will be assessed across our core provisions as a school. This will include the following functions:

- • Admissions
- • Attendance
- • Attainment
- • Exclusions
- • Prejudice related incidents

Our objectives will detail how we will ensure equality is applied to the services listed above however where we find evidence that other functions have a significant impact on any particular group we will include work in this area.

We also welcome our duty under the Education and Inspections Act 2006 to promote community cohesion.

School Community

Governing Body

Responsibility

Involving and engaging the whole school community in identifying and understanding equality barriers and in the setting of objectives to address these. Monitoring progress towards achieving equality objectives. Publishing data and publishing equality objectives.

Head teacher /Principal

As above including:

Promoting key messages to staff, parents and pupils about equality and what is expected of them and can be expected from the school in carrying out its day to day duties. Ensuring that all school community receives adequate training to meet the need of delivering equality, including pupil awareness. Ensure that all staff are aware of their responsibility to record and report prejudice related incidents.

Senior Management Team

To support the Head / Principal as above
Ensure fair treatment and access to services and opportunities. Ensure that all staff are aware of their responsibility to record and report prejudice related incidents.

Teaching Staff

Help in delivering the right outcomes for pupils.
Uphold the commitment made to pupils and parents/carers on how they can be expected to be treated.
Design and deliver an inclusive curriculum
Ensure that you are aware of your responsibility to record and report prejudice related incidents.

Non Teaching Staff

Support the school and the governing body in delivering a fair and equitable service to all stakeholders
Uphold the commitment made by the head teacher/principal on how pupils and parents/carers can be expected to be treated
Support colleagues within the school community
Ensure that you are aware of your responsibility to record and report prejudice related incidents

Parents

Take an active part in identifying barriers for the school community and in informing the governing body of actions that can be taken to eradicate these
Take an active role in supporting and challenging the school to achieve the commitment given to the school community in tackling inequality and achieving equality of opportunity for all.

Pupils

Supporting the school to achieve the commitment made to tackling inequality.
Uphold the commitment made by the head teacher on how pupils and parents/carers, staff and the wider school community can be expected to be treated.

Local Community Members

Take an active part in identifying barriers for the school community and in informing the governing body of actions that can be taken to eradicate these

Take an active role in supporting and challenging the school to achieve the commitment made to the school community in tackling inequality and achieving equality of opportunity for all.

We recognise that these duties reflect international human rights standards as expressed in the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child, the UN Convention on the Rights of People with Disabilities, and the Human Rights Act 1998.

In fulfilling our legal obligations we will:

- • Recognise and respect diversity
- • Foster positive attitudes and relationships, and a shared sense of belonging
- • Observe good equalities practice, including staff recruitment, retention and development
- • Aim to reduce and remove existing inequalities and barriers
- • Consult and involve widely
- • Strive to ensure that society will benefit

Addressing Prejudice Related Incidents

This school is opposed to all forms of prejudice and we recognise that children and young people who experience any form of prejudice related discrimination may fair less well in the education system. We provide both our pupils and staff with an awareness of the impact of prejudice in order to prevent any incidents. If incidents still occur we address them immediately and report them to the Local Authority using their guidance material. The Local Authority may provide some support.

Responsibility

We believe that promoting Equality is the whole schools responsibility:

We will ensure that the whole school community is aware of the Single Equality Policy and our published equality information and equality objectives by publishing them on our school website, and as a hard copy held in the school office in English and will be made available in other languages as required. The policy will also be provided in a different language, large print or as requested.

Breaches

Breaches to this statement will be dealt with in the same ways that breaches of other school policies are dealt with, as determined by the head teacher and governing body.

Monitor and Review

Every three years, we will review our objectives in relation to any changes in our school profile. Our objectives will sit in our overall school improvement plan and therefore will be reviewed as part of this process.

To be reviewed by the Governing Body annually

Further guidance for parents and carers and school governors on the Equality Act 2010 can be found on [LA's Website: <http://portal.nottscg.gov.uk>]