

Public Sector Equality Duty

Our school is inclusive; we focus on the well-being and progress of every child and we are committed to ensuring all members of our community are of equal worth.

We believe that the Equality Act 2010 provides a framework to support our commitment to valuing diversity, tackling discrimination, promoting equality and fostering good relationships between people. It also ensures that we continue to tackle issues of disadvantage and underachievement of different groups.

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.

The Public Sector Equality Duty or “general duty”

This requires all public organisations, including schools to:

- eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment and victimisation;
- advance equality of opportunity between different groups;
- foster good relations between different groups

We expect all members of the school community and visitors to support our commitment to promoting equalities and meeting the requirements of the Equality Act. We will provide training, guidance and information to enable them to do this.

What are we doing to eliminate discrimination, harassment and victimisation?

- We take account of equality issues in relation to admissions and exclusions; the way we provide education for our pupils and the way we provide access for pupils to facilities and services.
- We are aware of the Reasonable Adjustment duty for staff and pupils with disabilities or other medical needs – designed to enhance access and participation to the level of non-disabled pupils and stop disabled children being placed at a disadvantage compared to their non-disabled peers.
- The Head teacher ensures that all appointment panels give due regard to the school’s Equality Policy so that no one is discriminated against when it comes to employment, promotion or training opportunities.
- We actively promote equality and diversity through the curriculum and by creating an environment which champions respect for all.
- Our admissions arrangements are fair and transparent, and we do not discriminate against pupils by treating them less favourably on the grounds of their sex, race, disability, religion or belief, sexual orientation, gender reassignment, pregnancy or maternity.
- We challenge all forms of prejudice and prejudice based bullying, discrimination and harassment.

What are we doing to advance equality of opportunity between different groups?

- Our recruitment procedures take account of individuals with disabilities and other medical conditions and we do not discriminate against any group when appointing or during the employment of individuals.
- We know the needs of our school population very well and collect and analyse data in order to inform our planning and identify targets to achieve improvements. We take action to close any gaps, for example, for those making slow progress in acquiring age-appropriate literacy and number skills. We also ensure children from all groups are challenged to reach higher levels.
- We have procedures, working in partnership with parents and carers, to identify children who have a disability through our pupil admissions meetings and home visits
- We also collect, analyse and use data in relation to attendance and exclusions of different groups.
- We use a range of teaching strategies that ensures we meet the needs of all pupils
- We are alert and proactive about the potentially damaging impact of negative language in matters such as race, gender, disability and sexuality.
- We ensure equality of access for all pupils to a broad and balanced curriculum, removing barriers to participation where necessary.
- We are also implementing an Accessibility Plan.

What are we doing to foster good relations?

- We prepare our pupils for life in a diverse society and ensure that there are activities across the curriculum that promotes the spiritual, moral, social and cultural development of our pupils.
- We teach about difference and diversity and the impact of stereotyping, prejudice and discrimination through PSHE and citizenship and across the curriculum.
- We use materials and resources that reflect the diversity of the school, population and local community in terms of race, gender, sexual identity and disability, avoiding stereotyping. We include the contribution of different cultures to world history and that promote positive images of people.
- We promote a whole school ethos and values that challenge prejudice based discriminatory language, attitudes and behaviour.
- We provide opportunities for pupils to appreciate their own culture and celebrate the diversity of other cultures.
- We provide opportunities for pupils to listen to a range of opinions and empathise with different experiences.
- We promote positive messages about equality and diversity through displays, worship time, visitors, whole school events e.g. Working with the Anne Frank Trust
- Please refer to the equality policy for full details of our approach to promoting equality.

Our Equalities Objectives 2026-30

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EQUALITY OBJECTIVE 1
Pupils to understand they have rights, how they can exercise them, and how their rights link to their responsibilities.
Why we have chosen this objective:
As a rural school, we want to encourage our pupils to care for the world by 'Thinking Globally and Acting Locally' in different contexts. We will support and encourage our pupils to contribute to discussions and debates through school council and establish a Sustainability Squad to pledge to make a difference in different ways.
To achieve this objective, we plan to:
Increase awareness of the School Single Equality Scheme across all groups within school and how it affects everyone. To provide opportunities for all pupils to express themselves through School Council, Sustainability Squad and class activities to empower our pupils to actively make a difference towards sustainable goals. To visit the Houses of Parliament and Pupil Parliament to empower our children to understand expressing rights on a national and global scale.
Progress we are making towards achieving this objective:

EQUALITY OBJECTIVE 2

**To ensure that girls are equally involved in physical activity.
Improved participation of girls in targeted sports activities.**

Why we have chosen this objective:

We recognise that girls represent 51% of our school population and that we want to ensure that there is equal participation in sport and the opportunities offered in school. This will include school club and inter school competitions.

To achieve this objective, we plan to:

**Ensure that there are specific girls sports clubs as well as equal access to all clubs.
Ensure that girls access sports competitions equally along with boys.
Celebrate girls participation in sport equally along with boys sports achievements
Provide opportunities to develop confidence to access sports.
To ensure that pupils who are eligible for Pupil Premium Support access as well as pupils with SEND access sporting opportunities throughout the academic year.**

Progress we are making towards achieving this objective:

EQUALITY OBJECTIVE 3

**Promote good relations between people from different backgrounds
Improve understanding of Cumbria and the diversity within it.
Increased positive attitudes towards disabled people**

Why we have chosen this objective:

With our school population being 92% White British, we would like our children to experience a range of people from differing cultures and faiths. For the 8% of pupils from differing backgrounds, we would like to enable them to have opportunities to meet and experience others from their culture and faith.

To achieve this objective, we plan to:

**Set up link with another school in a different part of North West England with differing population make-up
Make use of disability images pack
Invite in representatives from disability equality groups to meet with children**

Progress we are making towards achieving this objective: