



Equality Information and Equality Objectives for Forest of Teesdale Primary School

Equality Act 2010

Forest of Teesdale Primary Schools' provision of the public sector equality duty

We in Forest of Teesdale Primary School are committed to equality. We aim for every pupil to fulfil their potential no matter what his/her background or personal circumstances.

We maintain the aim of embedding principles of fairness and equality across our entire curriculum, in assemblies and acts of collective worship, in break and lunchtimes, in pastoral support and in before and after school activities.

We must under the general duty of public sector equality duty, in the exercise of our functions, have due regard to the need to:

- ✓ Eliminate discrimination, harassment, victimisation and any other conduct that is prohibited under the Act.
- ✓ Advance equality of opportunity between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it;
- ✓ Foster good relations between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it.

This will apply to all pupils, staff and others using the facilities. We will give relevant and proportionate consideration to the public sector equality duty.

The protected characteristics for the school's provisions are:

- Disability
- Gender reassignment
- Pregnancy and maternity
- Race
- Religion or belief
- Sex
- Sexual orientation
- Age (only applicable to staff, not pupils)

- Marriage and Civil Partnerships (only applicable to staff, not pupils)

Age and marriage and civil partnership are NOT protected characteristics for the school's provisions for pupils.

We will have **due regard** to advancing equality of opportunity including making serious consideration of the need to

- remove or minimise disadvantages suffered by persons who share a relevant protected characteristic that are connected to that characteristic;
- take steps to meet the needs of persons who share protected characteristics that are different from the needs of persons who do not share it;
- encourage persons who share a relevant protected characteristic to participate in public life or in any activity in which participation by such persons is disproportionately low.

We will take into account the six Brown principles of 'due regard'

- **awareness** – all staff know and understand what the law requires
- **timeliness** – implications considered before they are implemented
- **rigour** – open-minded and rigorous analysis, including parent/pupil voice
- **non-delegation** – the PSED cannot be delegated
- **continuous** – ongoing all academic year
- **record-keeping** – keep notes and records of decisions & meetings

We welcome the opportunity to be transparent and accountable. To this end we fulfil the specific duties of the Act by:

- ✓ publishing our equality information
- ✓ publishing our equality objectives

We aim to make the information accessible, easy to read and easy to find.

Equality Information:

We maintain confidentiality and work to data protection principles. We publish information in a way so that **no pupil or staff member** can be identified.

Staff Profile:

Due to our small numbers of staff, we are unable to publish details of our staff profile.

Pupil Profile:

Age	We have 6 pupils aged from 6 to 11 years old in our school.
Disability	Our numbers are so small it would not be appropriate to publish this information. We ensure reasonable adjustments are made where appropriate.
Gender reassignment	We support any pupil towards gender reassignment.
'Race' / ethnicity	Our numbers are so small it would not be appropriate to publish this information
EAL (English as an Additional Language)	The language spoken within our pupil profile is English.
Religion and Belief / no belief	Our numbers are so small it would not be appropriate to publish this information
SEND	Our numbers are so small it would not be appropriate to publish this information
Sex – male/female	50% female 50% male
Sexual orientation	We support all pupils regardless of sexual orientation
Pupil Premium	16.6% of pupils are eligible

We will update our equality information at least annually

Equality Objectives

Our equality objectives are:

Objective 1: All learners are of equal value. We see all learners and potential learners, and their parents and carers, as of equal value:

- whether or not they are disabled
- whatever their ethnicity, culture, national origin or national status
- whatever their gender and gender identity
- whatever their religious or non-religious affiliation or faith background
- whatever their sexual identity or orientation.

Objective 2: We recognise and respect difference. Treating people equally (Principle 1 above) does not necessarily involve treating them all the same. Our policies, procedures and activities must not discriminate but must nevertheless take account of differences of life-experience, outlook and background, and in the kinds of barrier and disadvantage which people may face, in relation to:

- disability, so that reasonable adjustments are made

- ethnicity, so that different cultural backgrounds and experiences of prejudice are recognised
- gender, so that the different needs and experiences of girls and boys, and women and men, are recognised
- religion, belief or faith background
- sexual identity or orientation.

Objective 3: We foster positive attitudes and relationships, and a shared sense of cohesion and belonging. We intend that our policies, procedures and activities should promote:

- positive attitudes towards disabled people, good relations between disabled and non-disabled people, and an absence of harassment of disabled people
- positive interaction, good relations and dialogue between groups and communities different from each other in terms of ethnicity, culture, religious affiliation, national origin or national status, and an absence of prejudice-related bullying and incidents
- mutual respect and good relations between boys and girls, and women and men, and an absence of sexual and homophobic harassment.

Objective 4: We observe good equalities practice in staff recruitment, retention and development. We ensure that policies and procedures should benefit all employees and potential employees, for example in recruitment and promotion, and in continuing professional development:

- whether or not they are disabled
- whatever their ethnicity, culture, religious affiliation, national origin or national status
- whatever their gender and sexual identity, and with full respect for legal rights relating to pregnancy and maternity.

Objective 5: We aim to reduce and remove inequalities and barriers that already exist. In addition to avoiding or minimising possible negative impacts of our policies, we take opportunities to maximise positive impacts by reducing and removing inequalities and barriers that may already exist between:

- disabled and non-disabled people
- people of different ethnic, cultural and religious backgrounds
- girls and boys, women and men.

Objective 6: We consult and involve widely. People affected by a policy or activity should be consulted and involved in the design of new policies, and in the review of existing ones. Wherever possible we consult and involve:

- disabled people as well as non-disabled
- people from a range of ethnic, cultural and religious backgrounds
- both women and men, girls and boys
- people of differing sexual identities.

Objective 7: Society as a whole should benefit We intend that our policies and activities should benefit society as a whole, both locally and nationally, by fostering greater social cohesion, and greater participation in public life of

- disabled people as well as non-disabled
- people of a wide range of ethnic, cultural and religious backgrounds
- both women and men, girls and boys
- people of differing sexual identities.

We will update our equality objectives every four years and will publish progress on them annually.

We adopt a whole school approach to equality and consider it important for pupils to learn about equality and human rights. We adhere to the Equality and Human Rights Commission (EHCR) statement:

'To reap the full benefits of equality and human rights education, it is essential to teach topics in an environment which respects the rights and differences of both students and teachers. Without an equality and human rights culture within the classroom and school as a whole, learning about these topics can at best appear irrelevant, and at worst, hypocritical. The respect and tolerance it teaches will help staff and students create a healthier, happier, fairer school culture, and could lead to reductions in bullying and other negative behaviour, and improvements in attainment and aspirations.'

Though the Act refers to 'race', the use of ethnic/ cultural origin, background or heritage is often more appropriate

Headteacher: Sarah Hodgkinson

Chair of Governors: Judith Tarn

Date: 06-10-19