

SINGLE EQUALITIES POLICY inc. OBJECTIVES

Date Agreed: 5 September 2022

Review Date: 1 September 2023



Signed: _____

Chair of the Local Governing Committee

The Good Shepherd Trust Single Equalities Policy including Objectives

Revision Record

Revision No.	Date Issued	Prepared By	Approved	Comments
1	16 th February 2021	AJ		Updated references to gender/sex and local governors to local governing committee members
2	25 th August 2022	JM		Updated the objectives

1 Contents

1	Contents	22
	Statement / principles	33
	Policy commitments	53.1
	Promoting equality: Curriculum	53.2
	Promoting equality: Achievement	53.3
	Promoting equality: Ethos and culture	53.4
	Promoting equality: Staff recruitment and professional development	63.5
	Promoting equality: Countering and challenging harassment and bullying	63.6
	Promoting equality: Partnerships with parents/carers and the wider community	74
	Responsibility for the policy	84.1
	The Local Governing Committee has a responsibility for ensuring that:	84.2
	The Headteacher and senior leadership have a responsibility for:	84.3
	All academy staff have responsibility for:	84.4
	Measuring the impact of the policy	95
	Equality objectives	Error! Bookmark not defined.6
	Related Documents	12
7	Appendix	13
7.1	Glossary of Terms	13

2 Statement / principles

The policy outlines the commitment of The Good Shepherd Trust and all staff and local governing committee members of each academy within the Trust, to promote equality. This involves tackling the barriers that could lead to unequal outcomes for identified groups of students, staff, parents/carers, local governing committee members and visitors in the academy, ensuring that there is equality of access and celebrating and valuing the legacy and strengths within the academy.

We believe that equality at each academy within our Trust should filter through all aspects of academy life and is the responsibility of every member of the academy and wider community. Every member of the academy community should feel safe, secure, valued and of equal worth. At St. Mark and All Saints C of E Primary School, equality is a key principle for treating people with dignity and respect irrespective of their age, disability, gender, ethnicity, religious beliefs/faith, sexual orientation or any other recognised protected characteristic under the Equality Act 2010.

2.1 Monitoring and review

The responsibility for co-ordinating the monitoring and evaluation of this policy is the Headteacher, alongside the local governing committee with the support and guidance from The Good Shepherd Trust.

The Headteacher is responsible for:

- Providing updates on equalities legislation and the Academy’s responsibilities in this regard;
- Working closely with the lead LGC member responsible for equality and diversity
- Supporting positively the evaluation of activities that monitor the impact and success of the policy from different groups, e.g. Special Educational Needs (SEN), Children in Care, Minority Ethnic including traveller and English as an Additional Language (EAL) students and those entitled to the Pupil Premium, in the following recommended areas:
 - Pupils’ progress and attainment
 - Teaching and learning
 - Behaviour, discipline and exclusions
 - Attendance
 - Admissions
 - Incidents of prejudice related bullying and all forms of bullying
 - Parental involvement

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- Participation in extra-curricular and extended academy activities
 - Staff recruitment and retention
 - Visits and visitors

3 Policy commitments/objectives

3.1 Promoting equality: Curriculum

We aim to provide all our pupils with the opportunity to succeed, and to reach the highest level of personal achievement. To achieve this we will ensure:

- Curriculum planning reflects a commitment to equality;
- The curriculum prepares pupils for life in a diverse society and uses opportunities to reflect the background and experience of pupils and families in the academy;
- There will be opportunities in the curriculum to explore concepts and issues related to identity and equality;
- The promotion of attitudes and values that challenge discriminatory behaviour and language;
- The use of non-stereotyped materials which reflect accurately a range of cultures, identities and lifestyles

3.2 Promoting equality: Achievement

There is a consistently high expectation of all pupils regardless of age, gender, ethnicity, ability, social background and sexual orientation. To secure the best possible outcomes we recognise that:

- Adults in the academy will be expected to provide good, positive role models in their approach to all issues relating to equality of opportunity;
- It is important to identify the particular needs of individuals and groups within the academy and to use targeted interventions to narrow gaps in achievement;
- It is important to place a high priority on the provisions for special educational needs, disability and disadvantage;
- A range of teaching methods to be used throughout the academy to ensure that effective learning takes place at all stages for all pupils and that to promote pupil engagement, pupils are encouraged to be actively involved in their own learning.

3.3 Promoting equality: Ethos and culture

- At St. Mark and All Saints C of E Primary School, we are aware that those involved in leadership of the academy community are instrumental in demonstrating mutual respect between all members of the academy community;
- There should be a feeling of openness and tolerance which welcomes everyone to the academy;

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- The pupils are encouraged to greet visitors to the academy with respect;
 - The displays around the academy will be of a high quality and reflect diversity across all aspects of equality
 - Reasonable adjustments will be made to ensure access for pupils and visitors (including parents) with disabilities, wherever possible;
 - Provision is made for the cultural, social, moral and spiritual needs of all pupils through the planning of worship, classroom based and off site activities;
 - Pupils are given an effective voice, for example through a School Council and through pupil surveys, which regularly seek their views;
 - Positive role models are used throughout the academy to ensure that different groups of pupils can see themselves reflected in the academy community.

3.4 Promoting equality: Staff recruitment and professional development

- All posts are advertised formally and open to the widest possible pool of applicants;
- All those involved in recruitment and selection are trained and aware of what they should do to avoid discrimination, linked to safeguarding and safer recruitment practices and ensure good equality practice through the recruitment and selection process;
- Access to opportunities for professional development is monitored on equality grounds;
- All supply staff and contractors are made aware of equalities policy and practice;
- Employment policy and procedures are reviewed regularly to check conformity with legislation and impact.

3.5 Promoting equality: Countering and challenging harassment and bullying

- The academy counters and challenges all types of discriminatory behaviour and this is made clear to staff, pupils, parents and local governing committee member.
- Annually an anti-bullying week will be held in November to inform and challenge discriminatory behaviour throughout the academy.
- The academy has a clear, agreed procedure for dealing with prejudice related bullying incidents and has a nominated member of staff responsible for recording, reporting and monitoring incidents (Headteacher);
- The academy reports to the LGC (termly) and The Good Shepherd Trust (annually) the number of prejudice related incidents recorded in the academy.

3.6 Promoting equality: Partnerships with parents/carers and the wider community

St. Mark and All Saints Primary C of E School aims to work in partnership with parents/carers. We:

- Take action to ensure parents/carers from all backgrounds are encouraged to participate in the full life of the academy;
- Ensure that there are good channels of communication to ensure parents views are captured and acted upon;
- Encourage members of the local community to join in academy activities and celebrations;
- Ensure that parents/carers of newly arrived pupils e.g. EAL, traveller or pupils with disabilities are made to feel welcome.

In October 2010, the Equality Act came in force and introduced the term ‘protected characteristic’ to refer to aspects of a person’s identity explicitly protected from discrimination. Nine are identified:

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none">– Race– Disability– Sex– Age– Sexual orientation | <ul style="list-style-type: none">– Religion and belief– Gender reassignment– Pregnancy and maternity– Marriage and civil partnership |
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4 Responsibility for the policy

In our academy, all members of the academy community have a responsibility for the promotion of equalities

4.1 The Local Governing Committee has a responsibility for ensuring that:

- The academy complies with all equalities legislation relevant to the academy community;
- The academy's equality policy is maintained and updated regularly; and that equality objectives are easily identifiable;
- The actions, procedures and strategies related to the policy are implemented;
- The named Equalities LGC member will have an overview, on behalf of the local governing committee, on all prejudice related incidents or incidents which are a breach of this policy and ensure that appropriate action is taken in relation to these incidents

4.2 The Headteacher and senior leadership team have a responsibility for:

- In partnership with the Local Governing Committee, providing leadership and vision in respect of equality;
- Overseeing the implementation of the equality policy and action plan;
- Co-ordinating activities related to equality and evaluating impact;
- Ensuring that all who enter the academy are aware of, and comply with, the equalities legislation;
- Ensuring that all staff are aware of their responsibilities and are given relevant training and support;
- Taking appropriate action in response to diversity incidents, discrimination against persons with a disability and sexual harassment and discrimination

4.3 All Academy staff have responsibility for:

- The implementation of the academy's equalities policy and action plans;
 - Dealing with incidents of discrimination and knowing how to identify and challenge bias and stereotyping;
 - Ensuring they do not discriminate on grounds of ethnicity and culture, disability, sexual orientation or other equality protected characteristic under the Equality Act 2010;
- Keeping up to date with equalities legislation by attending training events organised by the academy, The Good Shepherd Trust or recognised training provider.

4.4 Measuring the impact of the policy

The equalities policy and all other relevant policies will be evaluated and monitored for their equality impact on pupils, staff, parents and carers from different groups that make up our academy. As part of the action plan a timeline will be published to enable equality analysis (equality impact assessment) to be undertaken at the appropriate time. The main findings from the equality impact assessments will be published for the academy community and used to make improvements.

St Mark and All Saints C of E Primary School Equality and Diversity Action Plan

Objective	Measured by	Activity	Lead	Progress milestones
PROMOTING EQUALITY – ETHOS AND CULTURE	Document identifying where diversity, ethos and culture is promoted across the school	Continual attention to diversity when purchasing books All Teachers to contribute to whole school document to evaluate diversity across the school year. Subject Leaders to evaluate the diversity of the content of their curriculum area and record on whole school proforma. Subject leaders to suggest improvements to their curriculum area	Headteacher	Diversity of books in KS1 and 2 Libraries reviewed in regards of Race and Ethnicity Sept 20 and new books purchased as a result. 2021-22 Greater diversity in history curriculum Yr1/2 and Yr 5
PROMOTING EQUALITY – ETHOS AND CULTURE Foster good relationships between all members of the school community encouraging openness by respecting each other's beliefs.	Continued reduction in the number of racist/bullying issues recorded at the school. Logging of racist/discriminatory incidents on CPOMS, HT informed and information added to Racist Incident file and included in Termly Safeguarding Audit. Monitoring of vulnerable children through Care Committee. Parental survey shows satisfaction of school's tolerant approach.	Encourage all members of the school community to talk openly together via circle time/Jigsaw PHSE activities to promote positive behaviours for learning. Jigsaw theme of 'Celebrating Difference' is taught in each class Pupil and parent Questionnaires Summer 2021 to include questions around equality and diversity	Headteacher	4 racist incidents in Autumn 2021, but none for the rest of 2021-22
PROMOTING EQUALITY – PARTNERSHIPS WITH PARENTS Continue to ensure that parents/carers of all new children are made to feel welcome. Continue to ensure that parental voice is heard and acted upon.	Annual Parent Questionnaire Summer term.	Ensure that on joining the school, parents are informed of communication methods and whether the school needs to make any adjustments to support them or their children. Home School Link Worker to support new entrants if relevant.	Headteacher EYFS Leader	Meetings with parents of new children have indicated the children have settled well. Greater diversity of new children joining the school has continued 2021-22

R e f	Objective	Measured by	Activity	Lead	Progress milestones
1	PROMOTING EQUALITY – ETHOS AND CULTURE Provide training opportunities for all staff to explore diversity and how we support and encourage this within our school.	Training records completed. Pupil survey results.	CPD for all staff on cultural diversity and how to promote and celebrate it, allowing us to retain our identities and beliefs yet work together in one community.	Headteacher	Training completed in 2019-20 Feedback questionnaires positive.
2	PROMOTING EQUALITY – ETHOS AND CULTURE Foster good relationships between all members of the school community encouraging openness and tolerance by respecting each other's beliefs.	Continued reduction in the number of racist/bullying issues recorded at the school. Logging of racist/discriminatory incidents on Pupil Asset. Pupil Interviews. Annual parental survey in 2019 shows improved perception and satisfaction of school's tolerant approach.	Encourage all members of the school community to talk openly together via circle time/PHSE activities to promote positive behaviours for learning. Home School Link Worker to support vulnerable groups CPD for staff on expectations.	Headteacher	Termly review of racist/bullying issues in CPOMS Feedback questionnaires positive.
3	PROMOTING EQUALITY – PARTNERSHIPS WITH PARENTS Continue to ensure that parents/carers of all new children are made to feel welcome. Continue to ensure that parental voice is heard and acted upon.	Parent forum established April 2019. Parental feedback on transition for new entrants. Annual parental survey – July 2019 and annually thereafter.	CPD for staff on cultural diversity. Ensure that on joining the school, parents are informed of communication methods and whether the school needs to make any adjustments to support them or their children. Home School Link Worker to support new entrants if relevant.	Parental Voice leader EYFS Leader	Review opportunities regularly and on an ongoing basis. Parent Forum minutes and actions Appointment of Parental Voice leader Transition Survey results

Ref	Objective	Measured by	Activity	Lead	Progress milestones
4	<p>PROMOTING EQUALITY – ACHIEVEMENT Continue to ensure that all children achieve the best possible outcomes and that the gap between those children who are disadvantaged or vulnerable continues to close</p>	<p>Pupil achievement and progress is in line with age expectations for the majority of pupils. Pupils are secure in their breadth and depth of knowledge, understanding and skills. Pupils are able to progress to the next stage of their learning.</p>	<p>Review of curriculum progress throughout the year for disadvantaged pupils, SEND and those with disabilities matches or is improving towards that of other pupils with the same starting points Specific monitoring for disadvantaged pupils, SEND, pupils with a disability to ensure progress is above average across nearly all subject areas</p>	<p>Deputy Headteacher</p>	<p>Ongoing monitoring of multi-vulnerable children monitoring. Work focus to ensure progress and achievement, including those more able children and those in between and low level Monitored regularly by SLT Monitored by SLT and LGC through planning and work scrutiny. Monitored through lesson observation and other triangulating evidence.</p>

5 Related Documents

- Guidance on equality, diversity and governance
- Equality Impact Assessment review list
- Equality Impact Assessments
- Anti-bullying and Behaviour Policies
- Attendance Policy
- Admissions Policy
- Academy Development/Improvement Plan

6 Appendix

6.1 Glossary of Terms

<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Equality Act 2010	40 years of equality and diversity legislation developed and combined into a single piece of legislation
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• SEN	Special Educational Needs
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• KS	Key Stage
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• EIA	Equality Impact Assessment
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• SD/IP	School Development/Improvement Plan
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• SEF	Self-Evaluation Form
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• PHSE	Personal, Health and Social Education
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• EAL	English as an Additional Language
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• SENCO	Special Educational Needs Co-ordinator
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• SLT	Senior Leadership Team
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• ASP	School data compared to national data
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• LGC	Local Governing Committee
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• EAL	English as an Additional Language
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• PP	Pupil Premium
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• SIAMS	Statutory Inspection of Anglican Methodist Schools
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• QEC	Quality of Education Committee
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• FSM	Free School Meals
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• GST	The Good Shepherd Trust