

Headteacher: Anne Etchells

General equality scheme

Introduction

At St Aidan's we are committed to creating an environment which will promote equality of opportunity for all members of our community: pupils, staff, parent/carers, governors and others working in partnership with us.

This general equality scheme moves the focus of the school from individuals to an approach that considers issues of race, disability, gender and age (as well as those of religion and sexuality) from the start at every level of the school: strategic planning, policy making, management and in the classroom. It demonstrates what we plan to do to achieve this and should be read together with related school policies including Safeguarding, Anti-bullying, Inclusion and SEND, Positive behaviour, our Accessibility plan, Anti-racism plan and Induction and transition procedure.

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<u>1</u> Protected Characteristics

The Public Sector Equality duty covers the following eight protected characteristics, each of which will be taken into account when developing our policies and practice in order to promote good relations and equality of opportunity for all:

- Age
- Disability
- Gender Reassignment
- Pregnancy and Maternity
- Race
- Religion or Belief
- Sex
- Sexual Orientation

2 Responsibilities

- 2.1 <u>The Governing Body</u> is responsible for ensuring compliance with the Public Sector Equality Duty.
- 2.2 <u>The Headteacher</u> is responsible for:
 - making sure that steps are taken to address the school's stated equality objectives;
 - making sure that equality and access plans are readily available and that school leaders, governors, staff, pupils, parents and carers know about them;
 - providing regular information for staff, senior leaders and the governing body about progress against stated equality objectives;
 - making sure that all staff understand their responsibilities under the Public Sector Equality Duty and receive training and support to carry these out;
 - taking appropriate action in cases of discrimination, harassment and victimisation.
- 2.3 <u>All staff</u> are responsible for:
 - eliminating discrimination and other conduct that is prohibited by the Act;
 - advancing equality of opportunity for all;
 - fostering good relations between those with or without a protected characteristic.
- 2.4 <u>Visitors and contractors</u> are responsible for following this and other relevant policies

3 Consultation

The views of all stakeholders are considered when formulating our Equality Objectives.

- Governors are involved through the Standards, Resources and Care & Communication committees and are involved in the regular review of all related policies.
- Staff are consulted at staff meetings.
- Pupils are consulted via the School Council.
- Parents/carers are consulted through surveys and special meetings.

4 Monitoring and review

4.1 The objectives of this scheme are monitored on a daily basis by the Headteacher, senco and the leadership team.



- 4.2 The progress of the Equality Objectives is reviewed and updated annualy by the Care and Communication committee.
- 4.3 The Equality Objectives themselves are reviewed and updated by the Care and Communication committee every 4 years.

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St Aidan's Equality Objectives 2021-2025

Schools have a responsibility to work to improve relations between all pupils and staff whether or not they have a protected characteristic. The following equality objectives have been developed to work towards these aims and responsibilities.

Equality Objective 1

To advance equality of opportunity by continually reviewing pupil achievement and engagement in learning and school life to ensure equality and fairness of access

Outcomes	Measured by
Where school data identifies key groups with	Progress from key points (Rec to end of
protected characteristics (not SEN see	KS1, KS1 to KS2)
below) and/or disadvantage who are not	
progressing systems are in place to ensure children are supported to achieve	Internal data and pupil progress meetings
	Other data gathering e.g. intervention
Where children are falling behind appropriate time-limited target interventions are put in	results.
place.	Book scrutiny, pupil interviews, classroom
	observations
Activity	Progress milestones
Identify the barriers to learning for identified	Data to show good or better progress from

Identify the barriers to learning for identified	Data to show good or better progress from
groups including children of specific groups	key stage to key stage.
who are underachieving.	Clear tracking in data taken in between key
	stages.
Data is shared with all adults working with	Termly SLT meeting to share pupil data,
children Ensure appropriate provision is in	highlight specific pupils, and discuss
place to address barriers to learning for	appropriate intervention.
every identified pupil Effective work with	Profile and progress data shared with class
external agencies including health to ensure	teachers, intervention staff and support staff.
that provision is centered around the child	Provision adapted due to the advice of other
and families effectively to meet their needs.	professionals and the needs of the children.
Ensure pupil premium funding is deployed	Pupil progress meetings have focus on key
effectively to raise pupils' outcomes.	groups.



Equality Objective 2

To ensure that all pupils identified as having special educational needs and disabilities (SEND) make good progress from their starting points.

Outcomes	Measured by
Pupils with SEND make good or better progress from their starting points.	Progress attainment termly report Book scrutiny, pupil interviews.
Pupils with SEND are effectively catered for in lessons through differentiation and individual focused targets.	

Activity	Progress milestones
Ensure appropriate provision is in place for all pupils with SEND.	Data shows pupils with SEND are making good progress from their starting points.
Work with external agencies to ensure pupils' individual needs are met.	Links with external agencies are strong and additional support is in place where needed.
Ensure SEND funding is used to support pupils with SEND effectively.	SEND funding is used to support pupils identified as having SEND and pupils' needs are met.



Equality Objective 3

To ensure that the promotion of equality and diversity is embedded in the curriculum and through our school values.

Outcomes	Measured by
The families and culture of pupils at St.	Pupil and family survey shows children feel
Aidan's is reflected in the school.	represented and an intrinsic part of St. Aidan's.
Diversity and culture is celebrated through	
whole school assemblies, key weeks and in the classroom.	Literature, pictures and curriculum constantly reviewed to ensure it is representative
Stereotypical images and opinions are challenged at all levels.	

Activity	Programme milestones
PSHE curriculum is used to challenge	PSHE Curriculum is effectively taught.
stereotypes and promote diversity	Book corners reflect different types of
Ensure literature e.g. book corners, library; as well as English teaching reflects	families.
communities	Audit of school books/literature.
Curriculum is constantly reviewed to ensure it promotes equality and reflects our communities.	Rolling investment programme in books that represent BAME families, a range of religions, families and disability.
Images around the school promote all faiths, race and communities.	Subject leads and SLT regularly review curriculum in line with the national curriculum objectives and other detail e.g. HEP
School has effective Anti-Racism systems in place	curriculum planning.
	Regular audit of pictures around the school.
Regular review of BAME plan by the BAME working party	Governors to look at developing an anti- racist policy



Equality Objective 4

Continue to monitor incidents of discriminatory language and all forms of bullying.

Outcomes	Measured by
Awareness and reduction in incidents of	Pupil surveys
bullying against pupils with protected	
characteristics.	Pupil focus groups
Pupils feel safe in school	

Activity	Progress milestone
PSHE curriculum used to address these	PSHE curriculum ensures that pupils have a
directly.	clear understanding that bullying, racism,
	sexual harassment ,transgender and
Closely monitor any incidents to ensure all	homophobic language is not appropriate and
incidents of bullying are recorded, including use of homophobic or racist language,	understand how to report and challenge it.
bullying targeted at individuals with protected	Monitoring and record keeping ensures that
characteristics and any language related to sexual harassment.	all incidents are recorded and addressed
	Monitoring shows a continued reduction in the number of incidents.
	the number of incidents.
	Parent/carer and pupil surveys show that pupils feel safe in school and free from
	bullying and harassment.
	All incidents are monitored and addressed
	and the number of incidents reduces
	overtime