

12/7/23

Summary of The Racism Awareness Group (previously known as Anti-Racism Working Party) Meeting

Attendees

- 18 people attended – majority were parents, some teachers, some support staff, some governors.

Presentations

- The meeting began with a presentation by staff giving examples of changes which had been made to the curriculum in order to better reflect the diversity of our community and acknowledge the contributions made by people of colour and from a wide range of backgrounds.
- NIA Academy: Two parents talked about how attendance had helped their children learn more about their heritage and how much they enjoyed attending online on Saturday mornings.

Discussions

The group discussed the best ways for the school to communicate the curricular changes but emphasised that multiculturalism and diversity were not the same as anti-racism and that it would be helpful for the school to address both.

Ideas were then given for communicating changes to the curriculum and for creating a greater sense of belonging. These ideas will be considered for implementation by the school. Some examples of this included reintroducing class assemblies and events such as cultural evenings.

There was lots of discussion and questions about racism and anti-racism and a strongly expressed view that this should be a whole school issue rather than an issue for black and brown parents or children alone. Parents wanted this group to represent parents of all colours.

People felt the current name of the group 'Anti Racism Working Party' could be seen as excluding some parents and could be off-putting to others. There was unanimous agreement that the name of this group should be changed to 'The Racism Awareness Group'.

There were then some questions and discussion about staff training and support. Parents expressed an interest in finding out more about what updates staff receive in training at school.

Finally, it was agreed that there should be termly meetings from now on. As a result, dates for next year will be circulated in September. All parents and carers will be warmly welcome to join.