

Federation Of Hanbury's Farm And Oakhill Community Primary Schools



Equal Opportunities Policy

This policy is approved for use at Hanburys Farm / Oakhill (delete as appropriate) Community Primary School

Signed _____

(Headteacher)

Date _____

Signed _____

(Teaching Lead - if applicable)

Date _____

Signed _____

(Governor)

Date _____

This policy will be reviewed annually.

Next Review:

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Introduction

At Oakhill Primary School, every child is a unique and special member of our school community. We are committed to giving all our children every opportunity to achieve the highest of standards, by taking account of pupils' varied experiences and needs.

We offer a broad and balanced curriculum, and have high expectations of all children. The achievements, attitudes and well-being of all our children matter.

This policy is intended to help to ensure that Oakhill Primary School promotes the individuality of all children, irrespective of ethnicity, religion, attainment, age, disability, gender or background. This policy accords with legislation:

- Race Relations (Amendment) Act 2000;
- Disability Discrimination (Amendment) Acts 2002 and 2005;
- Sex Discrimination Act 1975.

Aims and objectives

- We do not discriminate against anyone, be they staff or pupil or parent, on the grounds of ethnicity, religion, attainment, age, disability, gender or background.
- We promote the principle of fairness and justice for all through the education that we provide in our school. We recognise that doing this may entail treating some pupils differently.
- We seek to ensure that all pupils have equal access to the full range of educational opportunities provided by the school.
- We constantly strive to remove any forms of indirect discrimination that may form barriers to learning for some groups.

- We ensure that all recruitment, employment, promotion and training systems are fair to all, and provide opportunities for everyone.
- We challenge personal prejudice and stereotypical views whenever they occur.
- We value each pupil's worth, celebrate the individuality and cultural diversity of the community and show respect for all.
- We promote positive social attitudes, and respect for all.

Racial equality

At Oakhill Primary School we:

- strive to eliminate all forms of racism and racial discrimination;
- promote equality of opportunity;
- promote good relations between people of different racial and ethnic groups.

It is the right of all pupils to receive the best education the school can provide, with access to all educational activities organised by the school. We do not tolerate any forms of racism or racist behaviour. Should a racist incident occur, it will be dealt with in accordance with school procedures.

Oakhill Primary School welcomes everyone. We will not tolerate racist behaviour in any form and require all parents to support the school's ethos and values. Our curriculum reflects the attitudes, values and respect that we have for all ethnic groups.

Disability non-discrimination

Some children in our school have disabilities. We are committed to meeting the needs of these children, as we are to meeting the needs of all within the school. We fully meet the requirements of the amended Disability Discrimination Act that came into effect in 2005. All reasonable steps are taken to ensure that these children are not placed at a substantial disadvantage compared with non-disabled children.

We are committed to providing an environment that allows disabled children full access to all areas of learning, however we acknowledge our building is not as disabled friendly as we would like and may not be able to cater for all disabilities without additional funding to secure building changes.

Teachers modify teaching and learning as appropriate for children with disabilities and will seek advice from advisory services to ensure we do the very best we can to provide for any disability or need.

Gender equality

We are committed to seeing all individuals and groups of pupils making the best progress possible in our school. We have put in place a number of measures to raise the achievement of all pupils:

- Dealing with negative aspects of behaviour, including bullying and name-calling.
- Removing gender bias from our resources.
- Encouraging all pupils to develop good learning skills, attitudes and values.
- Making the curriculum and extra curriculum activities available to all pupils.
- Ensuring quality Wave 1 class teaching with appropriate support and intervention programmes (Wave 2 and Wave 3) to maximise learning.

- Use a variety of teaching styles, methods and resources appropriate to individual needs and abilities.
- Celebrate positive learning and social behaviour through house points, praise and rewards, gold ribbon assembly etc.
- We also seek to ensure that policies designed to improve the one group's attainment does not do so at the expense of achievement by other pupils.

The role of governors

The governing body is committed to equal opportunities, and it will continue to do all it can to ensure that all members of the school community are treated both fairly and equally. The governing body collects, analyses and evaluates a range of school data. The Governors require the Head teacher and staff to ensure that all pupils are making the best possible progress, and that no group of pupils is underachieving. To do this, we monitor:

- admissions
- attainment
- exclusions
- rewards and sanctions
- Appointments and applications (via LA)

The governing body seeks to ensure that people with disabilities are not discriminated against when applying for jobs at our school. The governors take all reasonable steps to ensure that the school environment properly accommodates people with disabilities. The governors welcome all applications to join the school, whatever background or disability a child may have. The advice of professionals may be necessary to ensure Oakhill has the facilities and expertise necessary to provide the very best for every child.

The governing body ensures that no child is discriminated against whilst in our school on account of their sex, religion or race. All children have access to the full range of the curriculum, and regulations regarding school uniform will be applied equally to boys and girls.

The role of the headteacher /senior staff

- To implement the school's policy on equal opportunities, being supported by the governing body in so doing.
- To make sure that all staff are aware of the school policy on equal opportunities, and that teachers apply these guidelines fairly in all situations.
- To ensure that all appointments panels give due regard to this policy, so that no one is discriminated against.
- To promote the principles of equal opportunity when developing the curriculum, and in providing opportunities for training.
- To promote respect for other people in all aspects of school life.
- To deal with incidents of unfair treatment, and any racist incidents, with fairness and equality.

The role of the class teacher / staff

- To ensure that all pupils are treated fairly and with respect.
- To select classroom material, which give positive images, and which challenge stereotypical images of minority groups.
- To deliver a curriculum which reflects this policy, both in our choice of topics to study, and in how we approach sensitive issues. Care will be taken to avoid negative stereotypes.

Monitoring and review

To monitor the effectiveness of this policy, the governors will therefore:

- monitor the progress of pupils from minority groups, comparing it with the progress made by other pupils in the school;
- monitor the staff appointment process, require the headteacher to report to governors annually on the effectiveness of this policy;
- take into serious consideration any complaints from parents/carers, staff or pupils regarding equal opportunity;
- monitor the school's behaviour policy, and the numbers of exclusions.