



ELMS FARM PRIMARY EQUALITY INFORMATION & OBJECTIVES POLICY

THIS DOCUMENT will put in place a range of actions to eliminate prejudice, unlawful discrimination and victimisation within the school community and workforce. statement of the aims, principles and procedures for Elms Farm Primary School in accordance with The Equality Act (2010) & The Public Sector Equality Regulations (2017).

IT WAS DEVELOPED in July 2021 through a process of consultation with governors.

IT WAS APPROVED by the governing body in September 2021 and amended in 2025.

REVIEWED: Annually, with objectives action plan every 4 years.

Our School Values



Ambition: We are ambitious for every child to achieve their best and be ambitious about their learning and their future.

Community: We value everyone in our community and learn how to look after each other and our environment. We respect each other and work together.

Equality: We value each other, our beliefs and differences are celebrated. Everyone is treated equally and fairly.



We are a Rights Respecting School

This policy links to the UN Convention for the right of the child:



Elms Farm Primary School recognises that certain groups in society can be disadvantaged because of unlawful discrimination they may face due to their race, sex, disability, gender reassignment, marriage or civil partnership, religion or belief, sexual orientation, age, or pregnancy and maternity.

The school has a statutory duty to publish an Equality Information and Objectives Statement. This policy sets out how the school determines its equality objectives.



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1. LEGAL FRAMEWORK

1.0 This policy has due regard to all relevant legislation and statutory guidance including, but not limited to, the following:

- Human Rights Act 1998
- The Special Educational Needs and Disability Regulations 2014
- Education and Inspections Act 2006
- Equality Act 2010
- The Equality Act 2010 (Specific Duties and Public Authorities) Regulations 2017
- Public Sector Equality Duty (PSED)
- Data Protection Act 2018
- The UK General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR)
- Data Protection Act 2018

1.2 This policy also has due regard for non-statutory guidance, including the following:

- DfE (2014) 'The Equality Act 2010 and schools'

1.3 This policy operates in conjunction with the following school policies:

- Admissions Policy
- Complaints Procedures Policy
- Equal Opportunities Policy: Pupils
- Equal Opportunities and Dignity at Work Policy
- Data Protection Policy

1.4 The Equality Act 2010 provides a modern, single legal framework with three broad duties:

- Eliminate discrimination harassment and victimisation
- Advance equality of opportunity
- Foster good relations

1.5 For the purpose of this policy, the Equality Act 2010 will be referred to as 'the Act'. The school fully understands the principles of the Act and the work needed to ensure that those with protected characteristics are not discriminated against and are given equal opportunities. Protected characteristics, under the Act, are as follows:

- Age
- Disability
- Race, colour, nationality or ethnicity
- Sex
- Gender reassignment
- Maternity and pregnancy
- Religion and belief
- Sexual orientation
- Marriage and civil partnership



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1.6 The Act makes it unlawful for the responsible body of a school to discriminate against, harass or victimise a pupil or potential pupil:

- In relation to admissions.
- In the way it provides education for pupils.
- In the way it provides pupils access to any benefit, facility or service.
- By excluding a pupil or subjecting them to any other detriment.

1.7 The responsible body for the school is the governing board or the LA.

1.8 The school's liability not to discriminate, harass or victimise does not end when a pupil has left the school, but will apply to subsequent actions connected to the previous relationship between school and pupil, such as the provision of references on former pupils or access to "old pupils" communications and activities.

1.9 The school will promote equality of opportunity for all staff and job applicants and will work in line with the Equal Opportunities and Dignity at Work Policy.

2.0 ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

2.1 The governing board will:

- Ensure that the school complies with the appropriate equality legislation and regulations.
- Meet its obligations under the PSED to:
 - Publish equality objectives at least every four years commencing on the date of the last publication.
 - Update and publish information every year to demonstrate school compliance with the PSED.
- Ensure that the school's policies and procedures are developed and implemented with appropriate equality impact assessments informing future plans.
- Ensure that the school's Admissions Policy does not discriminate in any way.
- Ensure equal opportunities in its staff recruitment and promotion practices, professional development programmes and in membership of the governing board.
- Proactively recruit high-quality applicants from under-represented groups.
- Provide information in appropriate and accessible formats.
- Ensure that the school publishes information regarding how it is complying with the public sector Equality Duty and that the information is easily accessible.

2.2 The Headteacher Will:

- Implement and champion this policy and its procedures.
- Ensure that all staff members receive the appropriate equality and diversity training as part of their induction and CPD.
- Ensure that all parents, visitors and contractors are aware of, and comply with, the provisions of this policy.
- Actively challenge and take appropriate action in any case of discriminatory practice.
- Address any reported incidents of harassment or bullying in line with DfE guidance.
- Produce an annual report on the progress of implementing the provisions of this policy and report it to the governing board.



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2.3 Employees will:

- Be mindful of any incidents of harassment or bullying in the school.
- Address any minor issues of harassment or bullying and report any major breaches of the policy to the headteacher.
- Identify and challenge bias and stereotyping within the curriculum and the school's culture.
- Promote equality and good relations, and not harass or discriminate in any way.
- Monitor pupils' progress and academic needs to ensure the appropriate support is in place.
- Keep up-to-date with equality legislation and its application by attending the appropriate training.

2.4 Pupils will:

- Not discriminate or harass any other pupil or staff member.
- Actively encourage equality and diversity in the school by contributing their cultural experiences and values.
- Report any incidences of bullying or harassment, whether to themselves or to others, to the head of year or to another member of staff.
- Abide by all the school's equality and diversity policies, procedures and codes.

2.4 The school will have an equality page on its website, in order to demonstrate how it is complying with the PSED in the Equality Act 2010, and advancing equality of opportunity.

3.0 EQUALITY OBJECTIVES

3.1 The school is committed to promoting the welfare and equality of all its staff, pupils and other members of the school community.

3.2 The school sees all members of the school community as of equal value, regardless of any protected characteristic. The school's policies, procedures and activities will not discriminate but must nevertheless take account of differences in life experience, outlook and background, and in the kinds of barriers and disadvantages which people may face in relation to any protected characteristic.

3.3 The school's Equality Information and Objectives Statement sets out how the school is meeting the PSED and outlines how equality of opportunity is ensured for all members of the school community. The Equality Information and Objectives Statement is reviewed at least every four years and is published on the school website annually.

3.4 The school will consult with stakeholders to establish equality objectives and draw up a plan based on information collected on protected groups and accessibility planning.

To achieve this, the school has established the following objectives:

3.5 The school will regularly review the steps being taken and the progress made towards the achievement of these objectives and, in line with the specific duties of the PSED.



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4.0 COLLECTING AND USING INFORMATION

4.1 In accordance with the requirements outlined in the UK GDPR and Data Protection Act 2018, personal data will be lawfully collected and processed in line with the principles and practices outlined in the Data Protection Policy and only for specified, explicit and legitimate purposes, e.g. to comply with the school's legal obligations.

4.2 The school will collect equality information for the purpose of:

- Identifying key issues, e.g. unlawful discrimination in teaching methods.
- Assessing performance, e.g. benchmarking against similar organisations locally or nationally.
- Taking action, e.g. adapting working practice to accommodate the needs of staff who share protected characteristics.

4.3 The school will build an equality profile for staff to assist with identifying any issues within their recruitment regime. The school will obtain the following information from their staff:

- Recruitment and promotion
- Numbers of part-time and full-time staff
- Pay and remuneration
- Training
- Return to work of women on maternity leave
- Return to work of disabled employees following sick leave relating to their disabilities
- Appraisals
- Grievances (including about harassment)
- Disciplinary action (including for harassment)
- Dismissals and other reasons for leaving

4.4 The school will use the information they obtain to analyse any gaps present in their equality documentary, including the Equal Opportunities Policy: Pupils and Equal Opportunities and Dignity at Work Policy.

5.0 PUBLISHING INFORMATION

5.1 The school will publish information to demonstrate its compliance with the Act. The school will publish information relating to persons within the school community who share relevant protected characteristics, these will include:

- People affected by the school's policies and procedures.

5.2 The school will not provide this information if:

- The employee is employed under contract personally to do work.
- The employer does not have, and it is not reasonably practicable for the employer to obtain the data.

5.3 The school will publish findings in its annual report.



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6.0 PROMOTING EQUALITY

- The school will provide auxiliary aids that are directly related to disabled pupil's educational needs as a reasonable adjustment, so they can integrate wholly in all parts of school life.
- Staff will ensure that all pupils are able to take part in extra-curricular activities and residential visits, and the school will monitor uptake of these visits to ensure no one is disadvantaged on the grounds of a protected characteristic.
- The school will ensure that all forms of prejudice-motivated bullying is taken seriously and dealt with equally and firmly.
- There will be differential schemes of work designed to meet the abilities and learning styles of all pupils.
- There will be a clearly defined disciplinary system stipulated in the Behavioural Policy, which will be consistently enforced.
- The school will increase access for disabled children and young people to the school curriculum and will take necessary steps to meet pupils' needs by using a variety of approaches and planning reasonable adjustments for disabled pupils, enabling them to take as full a part as possible in the activities of the school.
- The school will ensure there is adequate access to the physical environment of the school.
- The school will improve the delivery of written information to disabled children and young people.
- The school will seek the views of advisory staff, outside agencies and local schools.
- Throughout the year, the school will plan ongoing events to raise awareness of equality and diversity.

The school will consult with stakeholders to establish equality objectives and draw up a plan based on information collected on protected groups and accessibility planning.

Any reports of bullying and prejudice will be carefully monitored and dealt with accordingly. Annual training will be given to all staff to ensure that they are aware of the process for reporting and following up incidents of prejudice-related bullying.

7.0 ADDRESSING PREJUDICE-RELATED INCIDENTS

7.1 The school is opposed to all forms of prejudice. The school will ensure that pupils and staff are aware of the impact of prejudice. The school will address any incidents immediately and, where appropriate, report them to the LA.

7.2 Any reports of bullying and prejudice will be carefully monitored and dealt with accordingly. Annual training will be given to all staff to ensure that they are aware of the process for reporting and following up incidents of prejudice-related bullying.



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8.0 COMPLAINTS PROCEDURES

8.1 The school aims to resolve all complaints at the earliest possible stage and is dedicated to continuing to provide the highest quality of education possible throughout the procedure. Any person, including a member of the public, is able to make a complaint about the provision of facilities or services that the school provides.

8.2 The school will adhere to the Complaints Procedures Policy to ensure a straightforward, impartial, non-adversarial process, which allows a full and fair investigation, respects confidentiality and delivers an effective response and, appropriate redress. If a complaint has completed the school's process and the complainant remains dissatisfied, they have the right to appeal, as outlined in the Complaints Procedures Policy.

8.3 The school works to develop good professional relationships between colleagues; however, we understand that sometimes conflicts may arise. Through maintaining open communication, we want our employees to feel able to raise any grievances so that appropriate and effective solutions can be put in place. Grievances raised by staff members will be processed in accordance with the school's Grievance Policy.

9.0 MONITORING AND REVIEW

The headteacher will review this policy annually, to ensure that all procedures are up-to-date. The policy will be monitored and evaluated by the headteacher and governing board in the following ways:

- Individual attainment data
- Equal opportunities recruitment data
- Equality impact assessments
- Ofsted inspection judgements on equality and diversity
- Incident records related to harassment and bullying
- Any changes made to this policy will be communicated to all members of staff



Ambition - Community - Equality



ELMS FARM PRIMARY EQUALITY OBJECTIVES ACTION PLAN 2021-2025