

# Ormesby Village Infant and Junior Schools

## Racial Equality Policy

### 1 Introduction

- 1.1 Our schools' aims talk of valuing the individuality of all our children. We are committed to giving all our children every opportunity to achieve the highest of standards. Within this ethos of achievement, we do not tolerate bullying or harassment of any kind. Pupils will be provided with the opportunity to experience, understand and celebrate diversity.
- 1.2 This policy reflects the schools' general and specific duties as detailed in:

- Race Relations (Amendment) Act (2000);
- *Code of Practice on the Duty to Promote Race Equality* (2001), issued by the Commission for Racial Equality (CRE);
- *Preparing a Race Equality Policy for Schools* CRE (2002).

The following publications were helpful:

- CRE's handbook *Learning for All: Standards for Racial Equality in Schools* (2000);
- *The Future of Multi-Ethnic Britain: The Parekh Report* (2000) The Runnymede Trust;
- *The Macpherson Report* (1999) on the Stephen Lawrence inquiry.

### 2 Aims

2.1 Each pupil should have a right of access to opportunities regardless of ability, age, gender, physical ability, racial group, ethnic group, religious belief, sexual orientation or social background. As a right, no pupil should have to experience racism directly or indirectly. We encourage positive communication between school and the community and we aim to deal with complaints confidentially as far as possible.

2.2 In our schools we will:

- 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.

2.3 We are required to:

- prepare a written policy on racial equality;
- monitor and assess the impact of all our policies, including this one, on pupils, staff and parents of different racial groups, paying particular attention to the impact of these policies on pupils' attainment levels.

### 3 Principles

3.1 These three principles underpin all our procedures and practice:

- Every pupil should have the opportunity to achieve the highest possible standards.
- Every pupil should develop a sense of personal and cultural identity, with a confidence and openness to change that allows them to be receptive and respectful with regard to other people's identities.
- Every pupil should develop the knowledge, understanding and skills they need in order to participate not only in Britain's multi-ethnic society but also in the wider context of an interdependent world.

## **4 Responsibilities**

- 4.1** In our schools we all take responsibility for promoting race equality, but the following have specific responsibilities:
- 4.2** The governing body will seek to ensure that the school complies with race relations legislation, and that this policy and its procedures are implemented.
- 4.3** The Headteacher too, along with the governing body, will see that the policy and its procedures are implemented, that staff are aware of their responsibilities, that staff receive appropriate training and support in putting the policy into practice and that disciplinary action is taken against staff or pupils who discriminate racially.
- 4.4** All staff will deal with racist incidents in accordance with school procedures, and will know how to challenge racial bias and stereotyping. They will not discriminate on racial grounds.
- 4.5** Teaching staff will offer full curriculum access to pupils from all racial groups, and will promote diversity and racial equality.
- 4.6** Visitors and contractors will comply with the school's race equality policy.

## **5 Tackling racial harassment**

- 5.1** The definition of institutional racism is 'the collective failure of an organisation to provide an appropriate and professional service to people because of their culture, colour or ethnic origin.' It can be seen in processes, attitudes and behaviour that amount to discrimination, through unwitting prejudice, ignorance, or thoughtless and racist stereotyping, all of which disadvantage minority groups.
- 5.2** A racist incident is 'any incident which is perceived to be racist by the victim or any other person'. Any incident of racial harassment is unacceptable in our school. Incidents could take the form of physical assault, verbal abuse, damage to personal property, or lack of cooperation in a lesson, on account of another pupil's ethnicity.
- 5.3** Minority ethnic groups include gypsy travellers, refugees, asylum-seekers and, in certain contexts, white Europeans.
- 5.4** All racist incidents are investigated by the Headteacher. Incidents of racism are recorded and the Headteacher reports to the governing body and the LA on the number of incidents, the prevailing trends, and how the issues have been dealt with.
- 5.5** All pupils, parents and staff are aware of our procedures for dealing with racist incidents, and all staff deal firmly, consistently and effectively with racist

incidents. The person recording the incident should state the date, time and place of incident, the type of incident, the person/s involved and actions taken.

- 5.6** Victims of racism and racial harassment will be supported by the school and, where appropriate, we will seek the support of external agencies.

## **6 Attainment, progress and assessment**

- 6.1** The schools have equally high expectations of all pupils, and is dedicated to helping all pupils achieve the highest possible standards of achievement. Ethnic monitoring is essential to ensure that minority ethnic groups are not being disadvantaged. Evaluation of data may result in action planning.
- 6.2** We make regular assessments of pupils' learning, and use this information to track pupils' progress, as they move through the school. As part of this process, we monitor attainment and progress by ethnicity.
- 6.3** School performance information is evaluated in comparison with national data and LA data, to identify any patterns of underachievement. The governing body receives regular updates on information concerning pupils' performance.
- 6.4** In addition to attainment and progress we also monitor the following records, checking them for signs of discrimination: attendance, admissions, exclusions, racist incidents, the SEN register, and applications of the behaviour policy.

## **7 Teaching and learning**

- 7.1** We aim to provide all our pupils with the opportunity to succeed, and to reach the highest level of personal achievement. To do this, teaching and learning will:
- ensure equality of access for all pupils, and prepare them for life in a society of diverse cultures;
  - use materials that reflect a range of cultural backgrounds, learning styles and linguistic needs;
  - challenge racial discrimination and stereotyping, and teach pupils how to recognise bias;
  - provide opportunities for pupils to maintain links with their own culture, while at the same time appreciating cultural diversity;
  - employ a range of styles, including collaborative learning, so that pupils can learn to value working together;
  - provide educational visits and extra-curricular activities that reflect all groupings among our pupils;
  - take account of the performance of all pupils when planning for future learning, and setting challenging targets.

## **8 Behaviour**

- 8.1** The schools make sure that procedures for disciplining pupils and for managing behaviour are fair and just to pupils from all racial groups.
- 8.2** All staff operate the school's behaviour policy of rewards and sanctions consistently.

- 8.3 Staff are aware that cultural background may affect behaviour, and take this into account when dealing with unacceptable behaviour.
- 8.4 Exclusions and the use of rewards and sanctions are monitored by ethnicity, to identify any patterns.

## 9 Partnership

- 9.1 All parents are encouraged to take a full part in the life of the school. The schools work with parents and the community to develop positive attitudes towards diversity and to address specific incidents.
- 9.2 We consult with staff, parents and pupils about their opinions on the impact of our policies.

## 10 Staff recruitment and professional development

- 10.1 All members of staff are entitled to appropriate training, so that they can play their full part in ensuring that the school promotes racial equality. Their training is linked to priorities within the school's development plan, and funding for this professional development is identified.
- 10.2 Governors and members of staff involved in the selection and appointment of other staff will ensure that the principles and practices of racial equality are adhered to. The school will supply the LA with data relating to the racial groups of people appointed to employment in this school.

## 11 Monitoring and review

- 11.1 We have a rolling programme of policy review, and this policy will be reviewed every two years, or earlier if necessary. As policies are reviewed and amended, we check that the principles listed above are properly considered, and are embedded into both policy and practice. Thus our governors seek to ensure that due regard is given to the promotion of racial equality within each policy.

| Action                 | Date      |
|------------------------|-----------|
| Policy agreed by staff | 20.6.18   |
| Review date            | June 2020 |